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Upton favors impeachment

'Enough is enough,' he says, joining small group of GOP lawmakers

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Rep. Fred Upton strayed from the party line Tuesday night when he announced he will vote in favor of impeaching President Donald Trump, following last week's insurrection at the nation's Capitol.

Upton, R-St. Joseph, said in a statement late Tuesday that his decision became clear after the president spoke earlier in the day and showed no remorse for his actions on Jan. 6 that seemed to spark the mob violence.

UPTON

"Today, the president characterized his inflammatory rhetoric at last Wednesday's rally as 'totally appropriate,' and he expressed no regrets for last week's violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol," Upton stated. "This sends exactly the wrong signal to those of us who support the very core of our democratic principles and took a solemn oath to the Constitution. I would have preferred a bipartisan, formal censure rather than a drawn-out impeachment process. I fear this will now interfere with important legislative business and a new Biden Administration.

"But it is time to say: Enough is enough."

Upton is among a very small contingent of Republicans to publicly support the removal of Trump from office before his term ends Jan. 20.

The congressman, who was re-elected to his 18th consecutive term in November, previously voted against impeachment in early 2020. However, Upton's tone changed last week when he said the insurrection was going to be "part of Trump's legacy."

In Upton's statement, he urged colleagues to join him. If Trump is impeached in the House, it would take a two-thirds vote in the Senate for Trump to actually be removed.

"Congress must hold President Trump to account and send a clear message that our country cannot and will not tolerate any effort by any president to impede the peaceful transfer of power from one president to the next. Thus, I will vote to impeach," Upton stated.

Also on Tuesday, Upton joined a handful of GOP colleagues in the House to introduce a resolution to censure and condemn the president "for trying to unlawfully overturn the 2020 presidential election and violating his oath of office on Jan. 6."

Inside

■ House urges VP to help oust Trump; impeachment next
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Don Campbell / HP staff

A car travels down Ridge Road between West Glenlord and West Marquette Woods roads in Lincoln Township on Tuesday. Township officials are holding off on a suggestion to widen the road with 5-foot shoulders.

Lincoln in no hurry to widen Ridge Road

Township residents oppose expense, loss of trees and property

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

STEVENSVILLE — Lincoln Township trustees chose not to move forward Tuesday on a resolution to form a special assessment district that would help pay for a potential road project.

As the Berrien County Road Department plans to repave a portion of Ridge Road in the township this summer, there was a chance the road's shoulders could be simultaneously widened. Despite no action being taken, trustees discussed plans to address pedestrian safety along the road.

Efforts to widen the narrow road began after a resident mailed a letter last year to township officials requesting that action be taken. This would require a special assessment district to be formed that would help pay for the township's portion of the project.

The county had announced plans to repave along Ridge Road between Glenlord to Marquette Woods roads, when the proposal for widening the shoulder was suggested.

Supervisor Dick Stauffer said the township mailed 376 letters to homeowners, highlighting the need for the special assessment district.

Among them, 122 petitioners responded.

Stauffer said he spoke with a number of residents opposed to the measure, noting they oppose the added cost and the removal of trees.

During Tuesday's public hearing, one Ridge Road property owner spoke against widening the road for a couple reasons. The man said he doesn't want to lose five feet of his yard, and that he fears opening up the road would lead to higher traffic speeds.

Kevin Stack, project engineer for

See **RIDGE ROAD**, page A6

ST. JOSEPH

City weighs options to replace Getty

Deadline to submit applications is Feb. 4

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Plans are underway to replace St. Joseph City Commissioner Peggy Getty, who announced last month that she plans to resign soon because her husband's job has been moved to South Bend, and they will be moving there.

GETTY

The city commission discussed at great length Monday, in a meeting conducted via Zoom, the process to replace her. Her replacement will serve until November, when her term is up, then would have to run for election.

Different processes have been used to replace commissioners in the past. Those include: the commission choosing someone from the community and asking him or her to interview for the position; taking applications and having a committee of two commissioners interview candidates and make a recommendation to the

See **GETTY**, page A6

South Haven city officials address hiring more minorities

HR director institutes measures to increase diversity among ranks

By BECKY KARK
For The Herald-Palladium

SOUTH HAVEN — When Kim Wise was hired a year and a half ago as the city of South Haven's human resource director, she knew she faced a big problem.

"Historically there has been a disparity in hiring minority candidates for full-time positions," she told city council members recently. "I saw this immediately and wanted to do something to fix it."

In presenting to council a detailed report of changes that have been

See **HIRING**, page A6

Michigan plans to charge ex-Gov. Snyder in Flint water probe

By ED WHITE, DAVID EGGERT and TAMMY WEBBER
Associated Press

SNYDER

FLINT — Former Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, his health director and other ex-officials have been told they're being charged after a new investigation of the Flint water scandal, which devastated the majority Black city with lead-contaminated water and was blamed for a deadly outbreak of Legionnaires' disease, The Associated Press has learned.

Two people with knowledge of the planned prosecution told the AP on Tuesday that the attorney general's office has informed defense lawyers about indictments in Flint and told them to expect initial court appearances soon. They spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly.

The AP could not determine the nature of the charges against Snyder, former health department director Nick Lyon and others who were in his administration, including Rich Baird, a friend who was the governor's key troubleshooter while in office.

Courtney Covington Watkins, a spokeswoman for the attorney

See **SNYDER**, page A2

Jake May / The Flint Journal / AP

Volunteers load cases of water into vehicles in Flint on April 22.

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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Tomorrow's Weather

High 41 Low 31

6 50645 49085 0

SNYDER

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general's office, said only that investigators were "working diligently" and "will share more as soon as we're in a position to do so."

Snyder, a Republican who has been out of office for two years, was governor when state-appointed managers in Flint switched the city's water to the Flint River in 2014 as a cost-saving step while a pipeline was being built to Lake Huron. The water, however, was not treated to reduce corrosion – a disastrous decision affirmed by state regulators that caused lead to leach from old pipes and spoil the distribution system used by nearly 100,000 residents.

Snyder's attorney, Brian Lennon, released a blistering statement Tuesday, saying a criminal prosecution would be "outrageous." He said state prosecutors have refused to "share information about these charges with us."

"Rather than following the evidence to find the truth, the Office of Special Counsel appears to be targeting former Gov. Snyder in a political escapade," Lennon said.

Snyder apologized for the catastrophe during his 2016 State of the State speech and said government at all levels had failed Flint.

LeeAnne Walters, a mother of four who is credited with exposing the lead contamination, said she wants details about the charges.

"The very fact that people are being held accountable is an amazing feat," Walters said. "But when people's lives have been lost and children have been severely hurt, it doesn't seem like enough."

The disaster made Flint a nationwide symbol of governmental mismanagement, with residents lining up for bottled water and parents fearing that their children had suffered permanent harm. Lead can damage the brain and nervous system and cause learning and behavior problems. The crisis was highlighted as an example of environmental injustice and racism.

At the same time, bacteria in the water was blamed for an outbreak of Legionnaires'. Legionella bacteria can emerge through misting and cooling systems, triggering a severe form of pneumonia, especially in people with weakened immune systems. Authorities counted at least 90 cases in Genesee County, including 12 deaths.

The outbreak was announced by Snyder and Lyon in January 2016, although Lyon conceded that he knew that cases were being reported many months earlier.

In 2018, Lyon was ordered to stand trial on involuntary manslaughter charges after a special prosecutor accused him of failing to timely inform the public about the outbreak. His attorneys argued there wasn't enough solid information to share earlier.

By June 2019, the entire Flint water investigation was turned upside down after more than three years and millions of dollars. Prosecutors working under a new attorney general, Dana Nessel, dismissed the case against Lyon as well as charges against seven more people and said the probe would start anew. They said all available evidence was not pursued by the previous team of prosecutors.

The decision didn't affect seven people who had already pleaded no contest to misdemeanors. They cooperated with investigators and their records were eventually scrubbed clean.

LOTTERIES

Tuesday drawings

Michigan

Poker Lotto
7C-3D-6H-10H-5S
Midday Daily 3
2-6-6
Midday Daily 4
1-6-4-8
Daily 3
1-4-1
Daily 4
6-7-1-6
Fantasy 5
05-24-30-31-35
Keno
06-12-19-23-27-32-38-40-41-42-44-47-48-49-51-55-59-63-68-73-74-78
Mega Millions jackpot
$600 million
Powerball jackpot
$550 million

Monday drawings

Indiana

Cash 5
10-13-19-25-40
Cash4Life
18-30-41-48-54, Cash Ball: 1
Quick Draw Midday
03-05-12-13-14-26-29-33-35-39-45-47-52-54-58-62-68-73-74-75, BE: 73
Daily Three-Midday
4-4-5, SB: 5
Daily Three-Evening
8-8-0, SB: 9
Daily Four-Midday
5-0-1-2, SB: 5
Daily Four-Evening
3-4-0-4, SB: 9
Quick Draw Evening
02-04-08-10-11-19-25-29-30-36-43-44-45-46-50-52-57-65-69-70, BE: 57

Illinois

Lotto
11-21-28-29-39-45, Extra Shot: 19
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
11-12-18-26-30
Estimated jackpot
$300,000
Pick Three-Midday
0-9-1, Fireball: 3
Pick Three-Evening
3-6-9, Fireball: 1
Pick Four-Midday
8-3-8-2, Fireball: 5
Pick Four-Evening
1-6-4-6, Fireball: 5
Lucky Day Lotto
09-21-35-44-45

– The Associated Press

House urges Pence to help oust Trump; impeachment next

By LISA MASCARO, ZEKE MILLER and MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

Alex Brandon / AP

President Donald Trump speaks to the media before boarding Air Force One to Texas, at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., on Tuesday.

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House rushed ahead Tuesday toward impeaching President Donald Trump for the deadly Capitol attack, taking time only to try to persuade his vice president to push him out first. Trump showed no remorse, blaming impeachment itself for the "tremendous anger" in America.

Already scheduled to leave office next week, Trump is on the verge of becoming the only president in history to be twice impeached. His incendiary rhetoric at a rally ahead of the Capitol uprising is now in the impeachment charge against him, even as the falsehoods he spread about election fraud are still being championed by some Republicans.

The House on Tuesday night approved a resolution urging Vice President Mike Pence to invoke the 25th Amendment to the Constitution to remove Trump with a Cabinet vote and "declare what is obvious to a horrified Nation: That the President is unable to successfully discharge the duties and powers of his office." The resolution passed, It was approved 223-205.

Democrats proceeded even though Pence said he would not do what the resolution asked. In a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, he said it would not be in the best interest of the nation and it was "time to unite our country as we prepare to inaugurate President-elect Joe Biden."

Meanwhile, four Republican lawmakers, including third-ranking House GOP leader Liz Cheney of Wyoming, announced they would vote to impeach Trump on Wednesday, cleaving the Republican leadership, and the party itself.

"The President of the United States summoned this mob, assembled the mob, and lit the flame of this attack," said Cheney in a statement. "There has never been a greater betrayal by a President of the United States of his office and his oath to the Constitution."

As lawmakers reconvened at the Capitol for the first time since the bloody siege, they were bracing for more violence ahead of Democrat Biden's inauguration, Jan. 20.

"All of us have to do some soul searching," said Democratic Rep. Jamie Raskin of Maryland, imploring other Republicans to join.

Trump, meanwhile, warned the lawmakers off impeachment and suggested it was the drive to oust him that was dividing the country.

"To continue on this path, I think it's causing tremendous danger to our country, and it's causing tremendous anger," Trump said.

In his first remarks to reporters since last week's violence, the outgoing president offered no condolences for those dead or injured, only saying, "I want no violence."

With Pence's agreement to invoke the 25th Amendment ruled out, the House will move swiftly to impeachment on Wednesday.

Trump faces a single charge – "incitement of insurrection" – in the impeachment resolution after the most serious and deadly domestic incursion at the Capitol in the nation's history.

Rep. Sylvia Garcia, D-Texas, argued that Trump must go because, as she said in Spanish, he's "loco" – crazy.

Republican Reps. John Katko of New York, a former federal prosecutor, Adam Kinzinger of Illinois, an Air Force veteran, and Fred Upton of Michigan announced they, too, would vote to impeach.

But Republican Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio said the "cancel culture" was just trying to cancel the president. He said the Democrats had been trying to reverse the 2016 election ever since Trump took office and were finishing his term the same way.

Though a handful of House Republicans will join the impeachment vote – and leaders are allowing them to vote as they wish – it's far from clear there would then be the two-thirds vote needed to convict from the narrowly divided Senate. Republican Sen. Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania did join Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska over the weekend in calling for Trump to "go away as soon as possible."

Unprecedented events, with just over a week remaining in Trump's term, are unfolding in a nation bracing for more unrest. The FBI has warned ominously of potential armed protestsby Trump loyalists ahead of Biden's inauguration, and Capitol Police urged lawmakers to be on alert. The inauguration ceremony on the west steps of the Capitol will be off limits to the public.

With new security, lawmakers were required to pass through metal detectors Tuesday night to enter the House chamber, not far from where Capitol police, guns drawn, had barricaded the door against the rioters. Some Republican lawmakers complained about it.

A Capitol police officer died from injuries suffered in the riot, and police shot a woman during the violence. Three other people died in what authorities said were medical emergencies.

Biden has said it's important to ensure that the "folks who engaged in sedition and threatening the lives, defacing public property, caused great damage – that they be held accountable."

Fending off concerns that an impeachment trial would bog down Biden's first days in office, the president-elect is encouraging senators to divide their time between taking taking up his priorities of confirming his nominees and approving COVID relief while also conducting the trial.

As Congress resumed, an uneasiness swept the halls. More lawmakers tested positive for COVID-19 after sheltering during the siege. Many lawmakers were voting by proxy rather than come to Washington, a process that was put in place last year to limit the health risks of travel.

One of Trump's closest allies in Congress, House Republican leader Kevin McCarthy was among those echoing the president, saying "impeachment at this time would have the opposite effect of bringing our country together."

The impeachment bill from Reps. David Cicilline of Rhode Island, Ted Lieu of California, Raskin of Maryland and Jerrold Nadler of New York draws from Trump's own false statements about his election defeat to Biden.

Judges across the country, including some nominated by Trump, have repeatedly dismissed cases challenging the election results, and former Attorney General William Barr, a Trump ally, has said there was no sign of widespread fraud.

Like the resolution to invoke the 25th Amendment, the impeachment legislation also details Trump's pressure on state officials in Georgia to "find" him more votes, as well as his White House rally ahead of the Capitol siege, in which he encouraged thousands of supporters last Wednesday to "fight like hell" and march to the building.

The mob overpowered police, broke through security lines and windows and rampaged through the Capitol, forcing lawmakers to scatter as they were finalizing Biden's victory over Trump in the Electoral College.

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The Herald-Palladium

P.O. Box 128 • 3450 Hollywood Road • St. Joseph, MI 49085
Volume 153, Number 8

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Mail delivery	$30.25/4 wks
EZ-Pay	$26.40/month

All subscriptions are payable in advance. Other payment options available by calling Subscriber Services at 269-429-2400.

The Herald-Palladium is printed for your convenience with low-ruboff soy ink and with newsprint containing recycled paper.

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Sara Horton — **Advertising Director**
Julie Simpleman — **Circulation Director**
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The Herald-Palladium is published daily, Mondays through Saturdays, except for USPS holidays, at 3450 Hollywood Road, St. Joseph, MI and is a consolidation of The Herald-Press and The News-Palladium. Periodicals Mail postage paid at St. Joseph, MI (USPS 387-440). Postmaster: Send change of address to P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085. Member of The Associated Press.

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BERRIEN COUNTY TRIAL COURT

Sentences

St. Joseph

Drugs

Thomas J. Ketcham, 35, of Carmody Road, Coloma, 180 days in jail, credit for 2 days served, $3,558 in fines and costs and 5 years probation for conspiracy to deliver a Schedule 4 narcotic, marijuana, to a minor May 25, 2020 in Coloma Township.

Eric D. Hockett, 53, of Broadway, Benton Harbor, 42 days in jail, credit for 42 days served, and $198 in costs for possession of narcotics, less than 25 grams cocaine, Feb. 20, 2020, in Benton Township.

Larceny

Christy L. Kiser, 44, of Riverside Road, Coloma, 3 days in jail, credit for 3 days served, and $485 in fines and costs for larceny under $200, stealing a wooden bed, Sept. 29, 2020, in Coloma Township.

Breaking/entering

Eddie Williams, 41, of Clay Street, Benton Harbor, two concurrent terms of 160 days in jail, credit for 160 days served, $175 in costs and $418 in restitution for breaking and entering without owner's permission and arson of personal property under $200 April 7, 2020, in Benton Township.

Assault

Y-Xharian R. Micken, 19, of Bishop Avenue, Benton Harbor, two concurrent terms of 120 days in jail, credit for 59 days served, and $396 in costs for domestic violence, an assault on a man, and unlawful use of a motor vehicle June 15, 2020, in Benton Harbor.

Curtis L. Crum, 55, of Pearl Street, Benton Harbor, 120 days in jail, credit for 49 days served, $2,408 in fines and costs, 90 days on SCRAM tether, 2 years probation and completion of the Kalamazoo Probation Enhancement Program for domestic violence third offense, an assault on a woman, Oct. 30, 2020, in Benton Harbor.

Weapons violations

David J. Lacy, 28, of Whitcomb Court, Benton Harbor, 2 concurrent terms of 270 days in jail, credit for 209 days served, $198 in costs and forfeiture of two guns and ammunition for possession of a firearm by a felon and carrying a concealed weapon in an automobile May 23, 2020, in Benton Harbor.

Fleeing/resisting police

Cleo L. Armstead, 26, of Kalamazoo, 240 days in jail and $198 in costs for fourth-degree fleeing Berrien County Sheriff's Deputy Brandon Crosby May 30, 2020, in Benton Township.

Other

Thomas L. Taylor, 28, of Moore Road, Benton Harbor, 1 day in jail, credit for 1 day served, $2,198 in fines and costs, $75 in restitution and 18 months probation for illegal sale/use of a financial transaction device between Feb. 12 and Feb. 13, 2020, in Benton Township.

Niles

Assaulting/resisting police

Janel L. Chappel, 21, of Broadway Street, Niles, 51 days in jail, credit for 51 days served, $68 in costs and $146 in restitution for assaulting/resisting and obstructing Niles Police Officer Dan Nelson Nov. 2, 2020, in Niles; and a concurrent term of 61 days and $68 in costs for use of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, Oct. 10, 2020, in Niles Township.

Weapons violation

Davione J. Randall-Williams, 19, of South Bend, Ind., 45 days in jail, credit for 2 days served, $658 in fines and costs, 2 years probation and forfeiture of a semi-automatic pistol for attempted carrying a concealed weapon in an automobile Feb. 3, 2020, in Niles.

Drugs

Joy I. Gustafson, 47, of U.S. 12, Galien, 6 days in jail, credit for 6 days served, $585 in fines and costs, 18 months probation and driver's license suspended for 180 days for use of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, Feb. 18, 2020, in Niles Township.

Ashley M. Mugwisi, 35, of Carriage Lane, Niles, 49 days in jail, credit for 49 days served, $658 in fines and costs, 2 years probation and driver's license suspended for 180 days for possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, May 23, 2020, in Niles Township.

Tyler J. Fletcher, 28, of Clay Street, Niles, 5 days in jail, credit for 5 days served, $598 in fines and costs, 2 years probation and driver's license suspended for 1 year for possession of narcotics, less than 25 grams cocaine, Feb. 22, 2020, in Niles Township.

Kyle L. Sears, 29, of Sycamore Street, Niles, 180 days in jail and $198 in costs for possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, Oct. 17, 2020, in Niles Township.

Fraud

Krystle R. Carpenter, 32, of Union Street, Niles, 11 days in jail, credit for 11 days served, $598 in fines and costs, $858 in restitution and 2 years probation for attempted first-degree retail fraud Oct. 5, 2020, at Lowe's in Niles Township.

Larceny

John A. Johnson, 54, no permanent address, two concurrent terms of 90 days in jail, $266 in costs and 2 years probation for larceny in a building Sept. 15, 2020, in Niles, and assaulting/resisting and obstructing Niles Police Officer Scott Swanson Oct. 28, 2020, in Niles.

Other

Thomas W. Mandarino, 61, of Paw Paw Lake Road, Coloma, 4 days in jail, credit for 4 days served, $198 in costs and 1 year probation for obstruction of justice March 22, 2020, in Niles Township.

Maranda L. Ray, 19, no permanent address, 90 days in jail, credit for 64 days served, and 2 years probation for using a computer to commit a crime Oct. 11, 2020, in Buchanan.

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LAKESHORE SCHOOLS

Freeman: COVID has come with a high cost

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

STEVENSVILLE — The Lakeshore school district has received more than $1.2 million from state and federal sources to pay for COVID-19-related expenses, which kept the district from having to dip into its savings to keep the schools open.

But between a reduction in money per pupil from the state and extra expenses due to the pandemic, the district has barely broken even, Lakeshore schools Superintendent Phil Freeman said after Monday's school board meeting.

"We've spent that money in the first semester," he said. "That's why it's vitally important for us to get the second wave of money. We spent it on things that aren't a regular part of our school year."

Freeman said it is estimated that the district will receive $740,000 in the second funding wave.

During the meeting, Chief Financial Officer Tracy Althouse said more than $1 million was spent on the first semester so parents could have their children learn virtually if they didn't want them to attend school in person. Upper grades attended Michigan Virtual Academy while the rest of the students attended Lakeshore Virtual Academy.

Another $1.2 million was spent on cleaning supplies and machines, technology, barriers, face masks and gloves, Althouse said.

Freeman said after the meeting that the district would be in trouble if it didn't get the money from the second wave.

"We'd go deeply into fund equity at that point. It would put the district at risk," he said.

During the meeting, Assistant Superintendent Julie Powell said more than 200 students are returning for in-person learning during the second semester, which starts in two weeks.

She said they are in the process of hiring a fifth-grade teacher at Stewart Elementary School to help handle the returning students. She said all of the other grade levels can absorb the students without classrooms being overcrowded.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

EXTREME FISHING

Don Campbell / HP staff

Ice covers rocks near the New Buffalo Beach in New Buffalo as a fisherman tries his luck in the waters of Lake Michigan on Tuesday morning.

Royalton buys new truck; considers park grant

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Royalton Township agreed to replace an old maintenance vehicle Monday night.

Trustees voted to buy a Ford pickup truck to replace another F-150 that has been in service for 17 years. The older truck needed a new engine, which Supervisor Robert Basselman said wasn't worth paying to fix.

"It makes no sense to pay to put a new engine in that truck," he said.

The township will pay $32,376 for a 2020 Ford F-150, to be used by its maintenance department.

Manager Steve Tilly said the Ford originally cost about $47,000, but the township would pay significantly less through a state discount.

"Ford still has a pretty good program in terms of deductions from the manufacturer," Tilly said. "We will put the old one up for sale to see how much we can recoup. But with the engine being shot, we would be lucky to get $1,000 for it."

The other truck the township received bids on was a Dodge pickup originally priced at $49,770. Through the state discount, the township would have paid about $40,900

"The maintenance department will be happy to hear that," Basselman said.

Park plans

Trustees also discussed plans to develop the Bicentennial Park with the help of a state grant, but agreed they would need at least another month to decide what the scope of the project is.

Wightman representatives Ben Baker and Mary Nykamp provided a layout of recommendations for trustees to consider, as well as the details on applying for a park grant.

Among the changes discussed Monday night included the addition of pickle ball courts, a dog path, drinking fountains, walkways, disc golf, parking lot upgrades and a soccer field.

Basselman said trustees want to do some tweaking since the grant would require a 50-50 match from the township. He added some of those alterations to the park wouldn't be needed.

Tilly said the township can budget between $100,000 and $125,000 on their half of the grant and still have a sufficient cushion in the general fund.

Baker told trustees that applications for Michigan Department of Natural Resources grants are due April 1.

Basselman said the board should be able to have their minds made up on the scope of the project by its February meeting.

The next meeting Royalton Township board meeting is at 7 p.m. on Feb. 8.

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @TonyWittkowski

OutCenter reports receiving threatening email

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — The OutCenter of Southwest Michigan is currently working with law enforcement and other LGBT centers around the state after receiving a threatening email over the weekend, officials there say.

The OutCenter Board and staff reported in a news release that the threatening email came in through its website and targeted the center and the greater community.

The OutCenter, located in Benton Harbor, is a nonprofit that serves the LGBT community in Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties.

"We felt it necessary to shine light on something that typically hides in the dark as a 'cost of doing business' as an LGBTQ+ community center," the board and staff wrote in the news release.

They said the remarks were "clearly spurred on by the insurrection attempt last week at our nation's Capitol."

OutCenter staff have worked with and notified their attorney, the Benton Harbor Department of Public Safety, the Berrien County Sheriff's Office, the Michigan State Police and Michigan attorney general, the police department where the person making the threats lives, as well as the FBI, as online threats are a federal crime.

"We are thankful to law enforcement for their assistance in documenting this threat. However, something that is important to note: this is not illegal until this person were to follow through on the threat, or continue to threaten our organization and community," according to the release.

OutCenter staff have also been in contact with other LGBT organizations around Michigan and determined they weren't the only ones to receive similar threats from the same person.

"We are now sharing information among our organizations to be sure we build an evidentiary file, as well as connect with our broader Michigan family to grow our knowledge and bolster our courage in this new era," the board and staff wrote.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

BENTON HARBOR SCHOOLS

Pressure mounts for a return to in-person learning

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Benton Harbor High School students need to return to in-person learning as soon as possible, two Benton Harbor school board trustees and several parents said during Tuesday's school board meeting.

Benton Harbor High School students have been learning virtually all school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

After being questioned, Assistant Superintendent Lawanna Shelton said the district is working to bring the high school students back to the school building by the fourth quarter.

Trustee Trenton Bowens, one of the four new trustees elected in November, said the surrounding school districts also had to deal with the pandemic, but they still offered an in-person option to their high school students for most of the school year.

"I'm worried about our children," he said. "The statistics say that our children are already behind."

Students in grades K-8 had the option to attend school in-person for most of the school year. The entire district went to virtual learning after Thanksgiving, with grades K-8 being allowed to return to in-person learning on Jan. 19.

Trustee Angel Clark Crayton, another newly elected board member, said she's concerned that the state-mandated monthly update of the district's extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, given by Shelton, didn't include the latest guidance from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. Last week, Whitmer said the state's goal is for all school districts to offer an in-person learning option by March 1.

Crayton was elected the board's treasurer earlier in the meeting.

Superintendent Andrae Townsel said he also wants the high school students back in the building, but it has to be done safely.

Mayor Marcus Muhammad said he is meeting with Whitmer on Thursday and wants to be able to give her an update on the school district's plan to have the high school students return to in-person learning by March 1.

Monday was the first meeting for the new school board trustees. In addition to Bowens and Crayton, the other new trustees are Reinaldo Tripplett and Stephanie Rockette-Martin.

Tripplett was elected as the board's secretary. The board's new president is Trustee Dashuna Robinson, who previously was secretary. Elected as the board's vice president was Trustee Matthew Bradley.

Not everyone is encouraging school officials to get the high school students back in the building.

Elnora Gavin, a former trustee, said she is very concerned about COVID-19, especially since there is a new, more virulent strain going around. She said the children's safety must come first.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

Enbridge rejects demand to shut down oil pipeline

TRAVERSE CITY (AP) — Enbridge said Tuesday it would defy Michigan's demand to shut down an oil pipeline that runs through a channel linking two of the Great Lakes, contending that Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's decision was based on bad information and political posturing.

The Democratic governor in November moved to revoke a 1953 state easement that allowed part of the Canadian company's Line 5 to be placed along the bottom of the Straits of Mackinac. Saying Enbridge had repeatedly violated the terms and put the lakes at risk, Whitmer gave the company 180 days – until May 12 – to turn off the flow.

Enbridge filed a federal lawsuit challenging the order shortly after it was issued. Vern Yu, president for liquids pipelines, gave a point-by-point-response to the state's termination notice in a letter Tuesday and said it wouldn't close Line 5.

"Our dual pipelines in the straits are safe, fit for service and in full compliance with the federal safety standards that govern them," Yu said.

Mike Koby, vice president of U.S. operations for the Calgary, Alberta-based company, said Whitmer had overstepped her authority.

IN BRIEF

Berrien County adds 5 COVID deaths Tuesday

Berrien County recorded five additional COVID-19 deaths on Tuesday, bringing the county's pandemic death toll to 188.

The deaths were all people over the age of 50, according to the Berrien County Health Department's data dashboard.

In addition, Berrien County recorded 59 new COVID-19 cases and 82 new recoveries on Tuesday.

With the deaths and recoveries, the county is down to about 1,446 active COVID-19 cases. That's compared to 1,762 last Tuesday.

Spectrum Health Lakeland reported having 45 COVID-19 patients Tuesday morning. That's on-trend with the 43 patients admitted last Tuesday.

Van Buren County recorded 25 new COVID-19 cases on Tuesday, while Cass County recorded 19. No new deaths were recorded in either county.

BH man in coma after rollover crash

BENTON TOWNSHIP — A Benton Harbor man is in a coma following a rollover crash Monday night along M-139.

Benton Township firefighters used the Jaws of Life tool to extract a 21-year-old man who was trapped inside a 2005 Chevy Cobalt. The driver, the only occupant in the vehicle, was taken to Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph, where he was rushed into surgery for life-threatening injuries. The man, who was in critical condition in an induced coma as of Tuesday afternoon, has been identified as Damien Maynor.

According to witnesses, the vehicle was traveling southbound on M-139 at a high speed and failed to negotiate a curve near Diller Road. The vehicle veered off the road, over-corrected and crossed the centerline before striking a dirt embankment and rolling over.

Emergency personnel were dispatched to the area at about 7:30 p.m. Monday. The crash remains under investigation, and alcohol does not appear to be a factor in the crash. Responding agencies includes the Berrien County Sheriff's Department, Benton Township police and fire departments, Medic 1 Ambulance and the Berrien County Sheriff Crash Reconstruction Unit.

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Don't lose sight of attempted theft

Jonah Goldberg

An attempted bank robber who doesn't hurt anybody is still guilty of attempted bank robbery. If someone gets hurt, though, the penalties are greater even if the robber didn't intend harm.

This is how I think about what Donald Trump did last week. Of course the violence makes everything worse. But whatever blame he deserves for inciting a mob – and I think he deserves quite a lot – the ransacking of the Capitol should be understood as merely compounding the original caper: to steal the election he lost.

Let's look at the record.

For months, Trump dodged answering whether he'd respect the results of the 2020 election. Why? Because, as he often says, he likes to keep his options open.

Recall that Trump claimed the election was stolen before his cronies invented evidence of the theft. On election night, he said: "This is a fraud on the American public. This is an embarrassment to our country. We were getting ready to win this election. Frankly, we did win this election."

This was always the plan. Even liberals downplayed the outrage. They said Trump was "undermining the legitimacy of the election." He was. And yes, it's true many Democrats have questioned elections in the past.

The difference is that Trump's questioning of election results was a means to an end, not the end in itself.

Trump assaulted the election's legitimacy as a necessary first step toward stealing the election. As University of Illinois political scientist Nicholas Grossman laid out, the Trump campaign expected the race to be closer, with Pennsylvania playing the role Florida played in the 2000 election. Months prior to the 2020 election, Trump thundered that votes counted after Election Day shouldn't count, knowing full well that absentee and early votes would be in Joe Biden's favor. (He also knew that Pennsylvania's GOP-controlled legislature barred counting early votes before Election Day).

The plan was to declare victory on election night while he appeared to be ahead. That's why the campaign was so furious at Fox News for calling Arizona early – it undercut their ability to claim victory that night. In the days after the election, they wanted the Democrats to be the ones going to court to overturn the election results, not them.

But they tried anyway. The original idea was to have the Supreme Court hand Trump the election. This is why he repeatedly insisted that Amy Coney Barrett needed to be on the court before the election.

"This scam will be before the United States Supreme Court," Trump said on Sept. 23, over a month before the election. "And I think having a 4-4 situation is not a good situation, if you get that."

The "scam" he was referring to was early and absentee ballots. The court rightly rebuffed him, which explains why Trump felt betrayed by appointees whom he thought owed him loyalty. At the Jan. 6 rally, he hammered his own appointees. "I fought like hell for them ..." Trump said. "And you know what? They couldn't give a damn."

So much for Plan A. Plan B was to have state legislatures steal the election for him or have officials "find" enough votes to overturn it. That failed, too.

Plan C ended last Wednesday. At his "Save America" rally, Trump repeatedly called on Vice President Mike Pence to "do the right thing" and reject the certified Electoral College votes, under an insane theory that Pence had such authority.

"Mike Pence is going to have to come through for us," Trump told the crowd. "If he doesn't, that will be a sad day for our country because you're sworn to uphold our Constitution."

He then asked the crowd to show "strength." The mob promptly marched on the Capitol to intimidate Pence and Congress to go along with Trump's demand.

Trump and his team were open about their intent to intimidate Congress into overturning a lawful election. They claim rioting wasn't part of the plan. Maybe. But after months of Trump and his circle telling supporters that the Democrats were not only stealing the election, but that Biden was a corrupt Chinese puppet bent on destroying America, they negligently did nothing to prepare for it, never mind prevent it. A literal lynch mob chanted "Hang Mike Pence!" A police officer was beaten with American flagpoles. Another was bludgeoned to death with a fire extinguisher.

It's fine to say Trump didn't intend the utterly foreseeable violence. But that's like a bank robber saying he didn't intend for anyone to get hurt. The intended theft was bad enough. The violence only makes it that much more heinous.

Jonah Goldberg is editor-in-chief of The Dispatch and the host of The Remnant podcast.

Pence needs to save country from Trump

Steve Chapman

After three years and 50 weeks of meekly deferring to Donald Trump, Mike Pence finally ran out of patience Tuesday. Trump demanded that the vice president block Congress' certification of Joe Biden's election victory, and Pence gave his answer: No.

That refusal so infuriated Trump that he appeared at a rally in Washington, castigated his long-suffering subordinate and urged followers to march on the U.S. Capitol. "You'll never take back our country with weakness," he bellowed. Soon after, a mob was smashing windows, attacking police and invading the Senate chamber, forcing Pence and others to seek safety.

Pence can't escape responsibility for Trump's abominable reign, but it's not too late to do a service to his country that no one else can do: Call on the Cabinet to invoke the 25th Amendment, strip the president of his powers and urge congressional Republicans to agree. If he and the Cabinet were to act, Pence would take over until Congress decides otherwise – which it might not do by Jan. 20, when Biden takes over.

Pence took an oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic." After Trump's treacherous incitement of mob action against elected representatives of the American people, it is beyond doubt that one of the most dangerous enemies occupies the Oval Office.

But Trump does not have to be allowed to remain in power. The 25th Amendment could immediately remove the threat he poses to the peace and health of our constitutional republic. Nothing can happen, though, without the leadership of the vice president.

It may seem pointless to evict Trump now, given the vast damage he has already done and the limited time he has. But we have learned repeatedly that it is folly to underestimate his capacity for destructive mayhem.

Every day he remains in power is a day that the nation is exposed to horrendous hazards. He is the most powerful person on earth; he is reckless beyond measure; and his looming eviction may spur him to new heights of irrationality.

What could go wrong in the time he has left? Trump could start a war with Iran, something that has long allured him. He raised the possibility with his advisers shortly after losing the election. Iran's recent decision to increase its enrichment of uranium beyond levels allowed in the 2015 nuclear deal could be his excuse.

Last month The New York Times reported, "Since Mr. Trump dismissed Defense Secretary Mark T. Esper and other top Pentagon aides last week, Defense Department and other national security officials have privately expressed worries that the president might initiate operations, whether overt or secret, against Iran or other adversaries at the end of his term."

Trump finally issued a statement Thursday promising "an orderly transition on January 20th." But given his past obstinacy and his volatile nature, it would be unwise to bet the nation's future on that grudging commitment. He could just as easily call on his followers to flood into the capital to prevent Biden's inauguration.

As long he remains president, Trump also has the power to dispense executive clemency like Halloween candy. He could pardon more confederates and war criminals, and he could grant himself a pardon – which might or might not be valid.

If I were one of the deranged marauders who forced their way into the Capitol and pillaged congressional offices, I would be appealing to Trump to spare me and my accomplices from going to jail. And who would be surprised if Trump agreed? On Wednesday, asking the rioters to go home, he added: "We love you. You're very special."

Reckless choices and gross abuses are not the only risk. Trump has been largely AWOL for the last two months, even as a raging pandemic kills thousands of Americans every day. When the federal government was hit by a massive cyberattack, he shrugged it off. If some international or national crisis erupts in the coming days, Trump cannot be trusted to handle it responsibly.

He has no interest in his job, beyond hanging on to it by any means necessary. He has abdicated his most rudimentary responsibilities. I suspect no one knows this better than his vice president.

Pence will be remembered for helping the nation descend into the toxic turmoil of the Trump presidency. But he could also be remembered for getting us out.

Steve Chapman is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

LETTERS

Don't be so quick to judge

Editor,

So let the show begin. Four more years of insulated politicians debating polarizing ideologies that few of them live by, while Wall Street uses the distraction to capitalize on our ignorance. It's the game show, "Duopoly of Destruction," where everyone becomes an expert by choosing sides, and repeating everything they hear.

I grew up in a town where 80 percent of my neighbors voted for Clinton, Obama and Biden, and now live in a town where 70 percent of my neighbors voted for Reagan, Bush and Trump. For 15 years in between I lived in a neighborhood where Democrat, Republican and independent voters were equally divided (a neighborhood that ironically includes Donald Trump's home).

The first place is drowning in debt, has stagnant growth, and some of the highest property taxes in the country. Nevertheless, everyone I know who's been able to afford to live there for 30 years now has healthy productive children, and the retirement resources of homes that have tripled in value. In many cases, this number exceeds a million dollars. My friends there have been untouched by a lot of hardship, and it's not hard to understand why.

The place I live now also has high property taxes and stagnant growth, but because its jobs are rooted in farming, manufacturing and a 90-day tourist season, many of their children have struggled, and property values have barely kept pace with inflation over the same 30 years. Retirement comfort is often limited by Social Security and savings income, with low interest rates forcing some to work part-time, even into their 80s. Many of these people are angry and hurt to the point where the only thing they believe in is God, family and their right to own guns, and it's easy to understand why.

The place I lived in between is different. With higher tech jobs, reasonable property taxes and no income taxes, it has done nothing but grow. Homes there are in high demand from transplants all over the world, and double-digit property value increases have occurred nearly every year since I left. My best friend there is a hippie vegan Realtor who used to struggle to make $50,000 a year. Now he makes a million dollars a year, and drives a new Porsche Carrera. He sees all the protests, poverty and angry debates on the news, and just scoffs. He believes the country is doing great, that he's a genius, and it's easy to understand why.

Do you know what all these people have in common? It's that none of them has ever spent a day in each other's shoes, yet they all believe their unique circumstances makes them informed enough about politics, science and the economy to tell each other how to think. Well I've walked in all of their shoes, and 10 other pair along the way, and my advice is, unless someone can demonstrate they have actual experience backing up their opinions, ignore them, and gain more experiences of your own.

Warren Stewart
Stevensville

Trump incited violence against democracy

Editor,

On Jan. 6, Donald Trump incited a violent attack on the United States Capitol.

During the weeks prior to Jan. 6, Trump repeatedly urged his followers to come to Washington, D.C., and pressure senators, representatives, and Vice President Pence to invalidate legally certified votes of the Electoral College, thereby turning his election loss into an election "victory."

Earlier, during one of the presidential debates, Trump had urged the "Proud Boys," a violent White supremacist group, to "stand down and stand by." The clear implication was that they should be ready in case they might be needed to combat "election fraud."

When he lost the election, Trump immediately began to falsely claim that there had been widespread voter fraud. These claims have been repeatedly rejected by more than 60 federal judges and appeals courts, including the Supreme Court.

Despite the overwhelming legal rejection of his false "election fraud" claims, Trump persisted in trying to overturn the results of the election. On Jan. 6, he organized a large "Save America" rally in front of the White House.

At that rally, Trump's personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, urged the crowd to reverse the results of the election by means of "trial by combat." Trump then repeated his false claim that the election had been "rigged" against him and that there had been "widespread fraud." He blamed "the Democrats" and the "fake news media" for his loss and vowed to "never give up" the fight to reverse the election result.

Trump criticized "weak Republicans" who wouldn't support his efforts to overturn the certified votes of the Electoral College. He told the crowd: "We're going to have to fight much harder. ... You'll never take back our country with weakness. ... You have to show strength."

He urged his followers to "fight like hell, and if you don't fight like hell you're not going to have a country anymore."

Trump then directed his followers to march to the Capitol and pressure senators, representatives and Vice President Mike Pence to overturn the results of the election.

After being fired up by Trump's incendiary rhetoric, his supporters marched down Pennsylvania Avenue and proceeded to violently invade the Capitol building, where Senators and Representatives had just started to count the state-certified votes of the Electoral College. They assaulted the Capitol police, smashed windows and doors, illegally entered the floor of the Senate and the House, and looted the offices of elected officials.

Trump incited a riot. He incited mob violence. He is a clear and present danger to our nation. He should be removed from office as soon as possible, and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Larry Feldman
Lakeside

Throw the book at Capitol terrorists

Editor,

On July 28, 2012, three anti-nuclear-bomb peace activists from the Plowshares organization broke into a supposedly impenetrable maximum security compound in Oak Ridge, Tenn. The building, run by the Department of Energy, that was their target is called Y-12 and it is the "Fort Knox" of uranium. Their goal was to write pro peace slogans and to hang a banner with a biblical prophecy on the building.

With much surprise, the 82-year-old nun and her two 50ish-year-old accomplices succeeded in their goal. They surrendered to the security force, were arrested and faced trial in a federal court. Because of a statute of the United States criminal code on domestic terrorism, they were tried as terrorists and were looking at a sentence of 30 years in prison. The nun received a 5-year sentence, but only served 35 months. Her friends were given 9-year sentences and served 5 years in jail because of their previous offenses.

The federal Justice Department needs to be vigorous in applying the statute of domestic terrorism to the cases that will be before them in the coming months. If three peace activists get sentenced to 5 to 9 years in jail for trespassing and vandalism, the participants of the storming of the Capitol building should be judged much harsher for the disruption and destruction they inflicted on our government, on the Capitol building and on our peace of mind.

Dean Hill
Niles

Congress acted nobly after riots

Editor,

People love to hate politicians. Perhaps it's justified at times. But certainly not last Wednesday, Jan. 6.

After having to hide, probably terrified, for hours while rioters laid siege to their place of employment, what did they do? They went back to work. They did what they came there to do that day. They stayed late into the night certifying the election of the next president of the United States.

Carol Enos
Benton Harbor

OBITUARIES

Roland Bowman Sr.

April 29, 1939 – Jan. 11, 2021

Roland Harvey Bowman Sr., 81, of Benton Harbor passed away peacefully after a long battle with Myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS), on Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, in St Joseph.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 16, at St. Bernard's Catholic Church, 555 E. Delaware Ave., Benton Harbor, with Fr. James Adams officiating. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Watervliet. Friends may visit with the family from 5-7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 15, at Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road., St Joseph.

Memorial donations in Roland's name may be made to Sts. John and Bernard Catholic Church, Lake Michigan Catholic Schools, or Caring Circle of Lakeland. Those wishing to sign Roland's memory book online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Roland was born on April 29, 1939, in Buffalo, N.Y., to Daniel and Rolande Bowman. He grew up in New Jersey and served his country in the U.S. Air Force before settling in Michigan, where he worked for Volkswagen of America out of Grand Rapids.

On July 8, 1967, he married the love of his life, Carole Rita Culver at St John's Catholic Church. They cherished 52 beautiful years together. His love for Carole was immeasurable, and he spent many years caring for her throughout her long battle with Parkinson's while also battling cancer and MDS until her passing in June 2020.

After working for Volkswagen, he continued to work in the automotive parts industry and courageously attended college at the age of 51, earning an associate's degree before concluding his career and retiring as a bus dispatcher from Benton Harbor Area Schools. He was a lifelong and devout member of Sts. John and Bernard Catholic Church and was also an active member of the Knights of Columbus. He was proud of the accomplishments of his children and grandchildren and was proud to have all four of his children graduate from college.

Roland was known for his unfaltering devotion to his family, which were his greatest pride and joy. He spent many hours with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He enjoyed games with them such as horseshoes, bowling, chess, golf, badminton, and a much loved family card game known as "Pounce." Roland loved playing games, but would never let you win. When you would finally beat him at a game, it was a huge sense of accomplishment, as you had to earn that win fair and square. He would proudly attend sporting events for his children and grandchildren and took pride in teaching them all how to drive when they came of age.

Roland was a proud cancer survivor and took pleasure in sharing his journey with others. He loved to travel and would never sleep the night before a trip. His favorite trips included seeing Italy, and visiting family in New Jersey.

Roland is survived by his children: Audrey (Michael) Salesberry of St. Joseph, Roland (Lisa) Bowman Jr., of Bean Blossom, Ind., Nancy (Cliff) Miller of St. Joseph, Natalie (Jay) Lawless of Clinton Township, Mich.; eight grandchildren: Jacqueline (Chase) Wagner, Jennifer (Jake) Zerrenner, Joseph (Kimberly) Schneck, Justin (Jamie) Schneck, Logan and Jacob Miller, Abigail Bowman and Hunter Lawless; three step-grandchildren: Jonathon (Beth) Salesberry, Taylor (Jeramie) Spears, and George Lawless; great grandchildren: Joshua Dohm, Christian Wagner, and Baby Wagner due in March; two step-great grandchildren: Mathew and Cadence Salesberry; three sisters-in-law: Mary Zielke, Judy Uphues, and Ruth (Jerry) Still; two brothers-in-law: Rich Ackerman and Bruce Cole; and several nieces and nephews, including a beloved niece, Debbie Dibble, that considered him an adopted father.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Carole; his parents: Daniel and Rolande; his brother, John; and sisters: Danielle Ackerman and Jacqueline Bowns.

Virginia Beverly Sansone

July 28, 1938 – Jan. 10, 2021

Virginia Beverly Sansone passed away Sunday, Jan. 10, 2021, at Caretel Inns of Royalton, St. Joseph. Per her request cremation has taken place and Mass of Christian Burial will be at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen, https://soupk.org/donate. Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Virginia was born in Chicago, on July 28, 1938, to Joseph and Virginia (Martin) Stainer.

On Aug. 8, 1959, she married Fred V. Sansone Sr., at St. Catherine of Sienna Church in Oak Park, Ill. The two were married for nearly 56 years before his passing in 2015.

For 14 years, Virginia worked for and retired from Will County, Ill., as a clerk in the tax assessing office. Virginia and Fred both had a love for the water, with a special place in her heart for Michigan. Before moving to St. Joseph Charter Township, they had their boat stored at Eagle Point Marina and would take it for a cruise on Lake Michigan whenever possible. They were both also proud members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary – St. Joseph Station.

Virginia took pride in her jewelry making and the poetry and short stories she would write. She also enjoyed reading, playing the piano and collecting stamps. She was very spiritual and a faithful member of St. Bernard Catholic Church, her religion and relationship with the Lord was very important to her. However, what brought her the most joy was spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Virginia was an incredible lady who always put others before herself and will truly be missed by all who knew her.

Virginia is survived by sons: Fred Jr., (Dee), Gerald (Elizabeth), William (Van), and Dominic (Aneta); grandchildren: Nicholas (Kathleen) and Allison Sansone, Steven and Michael Sansone, Tuyet-Van (John) Wilcox and William Jr., (Seleena) Sansone, Maximilian and Alex Sansone; and great-grandchildren: Samantha, Skyla and Jonathon Wilcox; brothers: Joseph III (Joanne) Stainer and William J. (Nikki) Mayer; nephews: Jay (Brenda) Stainer, William Jr., Ian, Scott and Justin Mayer; great-nephews and -nieces Austin, Ian and Camden Stainer, and Summer Stainer; half-brothers Gregory and Jeff Stainer; half-sister, Pamela Hagedorn; and many more nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Fred Sr.; both parents; step-father, William J. Mayer; and beloved nephew, Gene Stainer.

Harold Lee Ryan

March 7, 1946 – Dec. 29, 2020

On Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020, Harold Lee Ryan, loving husband and father of two children passed away at age 74.

Harold was born on March 7, 1946, in Benton Harbor, to JB and Lorene Ryan. He graduated from Hartford High School in 1965, and then proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1968.

He met the love of his life, Alice (Dykema), and was married in November 1968. He worked as a mechanic for Hartford Public Schools from 1979 to 1993, and then went to work for Bosch Braking where he retired. He had a passion for working on and building cars and hot rods and showing his cars at shows.

Harold was proceeded in death by his father, JB Ryan; and his mother, Lorene Ryan (Moss).

He is survived by his loving wife, Alice Ryan; and his two sons: Timothy (Kim) Ryan, and Jeremy Ryan; his brother, Larry (Gloria) Ryan; his sisters: Lois (Leamon) Pruitt, and Peggy (John) Strong; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place and a celebration of life will be announced at a later date.

All donations should be sent in lieu of flowers to: DAV Chapter 17-Twin Cities, Moose Lodge, 2180 Union St., Benton Harbor, MI 49022

The family has entrusted the Calvin Funeral Home, Hartford, with arrangements. Those wishing to leave condolences for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

Nancy Carr

July 29, 1952 – Jan. 11, 2021

Nancy Diane (Morton) Carr of St. Joseph passed away peacefully at home on Jan. 11, 2021, after a nearly two-year courageous battle with cancer.

Nancy was born on July 29, 1952, to Phillip and Irene (Mandro) Morton in Adrian, Mich. She was a 1970 graduate of Benton Harbor High School, a 1974 graduate of Grand Valley State College, and earned master's degrees from Michigan State University in education, and Western Michigan University in speech and language pathology. She taught at Lake Michigan Catholic Schools for three years before transitioning to work at Imperial Printing until she decided to stay home to raise her children.

Once her children were in school full-time, she returned to school herself to earn her degree in speech and language pathology. She began her new career in Constantine in 1992, working for the St. Joseph County ISD until 2001. She then worked for Buchanan Community Schools until her retirement in 2017.

Nancy is survived by her husband of 45 years, John; and children: Heather of Sister Lakes, Spencer (Danielle) of Benton Harbor, and Trevor of St. Joseph; as well as her granddaughters: Rowan and Linden Carr. She is also survived by her brother, Greg (Debra) Morton, and their daughter, Jenna, of Byron Center; and cousins: Lori Dixon of Georgia and Tami Weaver of Florida. She also leaves behind her best friend and supporter, Angelika Hager.

Nancy was preceded in passing by her parents: Phil and Irene Morton.

Nancy enjoyed raising her children and watching them succeed in school and sports, never missing an opportunity to watch them play the many sports that they participated in. She loved gardening, birdwatching, and traveling along the coast of Lake Michigan looking at the lighthouses and visiting the small towns along the way.

We would like to thank the doctors and staff at Memorial Hospital in South Bend, especially Dr. Lui, Dr. Reid, and all the people in the Cancer Care Center, for their support during her treatment. We would also like to recognize Chris Glendening for her support while she was with us, and to express our appreciation for the help and guidance given to us by the team at Caring Circle of Lakeland.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 1:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 15, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 220 Church St., St. Joseph. Inurnment will follow at Riverview Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Lake Michigan Catholic Schools, 915 Pleasant St., St. Joseph; Readiness Center at St. John Church, 347 Catalpa Ave., Benton Harbor; or the Berrien County Cancer Services, 3900 Hollywood Road, St. Joseph.

Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Starks & Menchinger Chapel & Cremation Services, St. Joseph.

Jerome Henry Pitcher

Aug. 2, 1931 – Jan. 5, 2021

Jerome (Bud) Henry Pitcher, 89, of Hartford passed away Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph.

Bud was born Aug. 2, 1931, in Watervliet Township, the son of Jerome and Ethel Pitcher, both of whom preceded him in passing. Also preceding him in passing were five sisters and one brother.

Bud was formerly employed at Haxon Dairy, Watervliet, as a milk delivery man. In the early 1960s, he purchased The Dairy Bar in Hartford, which became the "go to" place after sports events. After he sold The Dairy Bar in the late '60s, he worked at Duffy Mott and the Hartford Fruit Exchange, fruit buyer at Silver Mills in Eau Claire, Spartanburg, S.C., and Hart; and as plant manager at Carolina Apple Processors, and he retired as janitor at Hartford Public Schools. After his retirement from the schools, you would see him and Daun at many of Hartford's sports events selling tickets.

Bud's favorite past time was his woodworking. You would see him and Daun at local craft fairs selling his beautiful tables, shelves, and holiday-themed wood projects.

Bud married Daun Walker on Dec. 17, 1950. Bud and Daun just recently had the pleasure of celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary on Dec. 17, 2020.

He is also survived by his wife, Daun; and his three children: Connie (Rick) VanLoon of Ludington, Cindy Gress of Hartford, Randy (Billie) Pitcher of South Haven; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

At this time, the family will not be holding a memorial service due to current restrictions of COVID-19. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Memorial donations in Bud's name may be made to the Hartford Athletic Department or His Place Cathedral of Faith, Covert.

The family has entrusted the Calvin Funeral Home, Hartford, with arrangements. Those wishing to leave a condolence for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

Death notices

Daniel Patrick Bartolucci, 84, died Jan. 10, 2021. Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel, Hamburg, Mich., 810-231-0200.

Roland Harvey Bowman Sr., 81, of Benton Harbor died Jan. 11, 2021. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Nancy Carr, 68, of St. Joseph died Jan. 11, 2021. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Wayne Denton Sr., 90, of rural Roann, Ind., died Jan. 11, 2021. Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash, Ind., 260-563-8879.

Jermyn Edward Dolan, 83, of Sawyer died Jan. 11, 2021. Hoven Funeral Home, Buchanan, 695-2363.

Jerry Fentress, 64, of Eau Claire died Jan. 11, 2021. Bowerman Funeral Home, Eau Claire, 461-4241.

Alana M. Kitchell, 69, of Buchanan died Jan. 11, 2021. Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Todd Douglas Marschke, 56, of St. Claire Shores died Jan. 9, 2021.

Jerome Henry Pitcher, 89, of Hartford died Jan, 5, 2021. Calvin-Leonard Funeral Home, Hartford, 621-4101.

Annie B Reynolds, 90, of Benton Harbor died Jan. 7, 2021. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

James M. Rutz, 52, of Dowagiac died Jan. 1, 2021. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Harold Ryan, 74, died Dec. 29, 2020. Calvin-Leonard Funeral Home, Hartford, 621-4101.

Virginia Sansone, 68, of St. Joseph died Jan. 10, 2021. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Lory Jeanne (Webster) Flener, 62, of Watervliet died Jan. 11, 2021. Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremations Services, Benton Harbor, 926-9440.

Daniel Patrick Bartolucci

March 17, 1936 – Jan. 10, 2021

His Legacy … Daniel Patrick Bartolucci, 84, passed away Jan. 10, 2021.

He was born on March 17, 1936, in Chicago, to Joseph Bartolucci and Maria (Rossi) Bartolucci.

Daniel married the love of his life, Phyllis (Gerlach) Bartolucci, on April 28, 1962, in St. Joseph. He was a devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather.

Daniel enjoyed joking with his friends and was known for his crazy sense of humor. He loved watching U of M football and was a proud season ticket holder for over 50 years, including the Rose Bowl game. Daniel was an avid reader and especially enjoyed American history, World War II history and he toured many battlefields. His life was also spent traveling to many exotic places. He traveled to Japan, England, Rio de Janeiro, and after retirement, he spent a month every year on Kiawah Island, S.C.

Daniel was also a lover of animals and cared for his two cats: Cassidy and Casey. Most of all, he loved his family and spending time with them. He will be deeply missed.

His Family … Daniel will be missed by his wife, Phyllis Bartolucci; his children: Sean (Jen) Bartolucci, Brooke (Stephan) Oprsal; and grandchildren: Brandon Bartolucci, Ryan Bartolucci, Sophie Oprsal, Avery Oprsal.

He is preceded in death by his parents: Joseph and Maria Bartolucci; sister, Theodora Del Mariani; brother, Reno Bartolucci; grandson, Gavin Oprsal; and nieces: Shari Del Mariani, Rena Jacobs.

His Farewell … Daniel's family will have a private Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Good Counsel on Friday, Jan. 15. The family will have a memorial service at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be given to the Humane Society of Livingston County in his honor. Please leave a message of comfort for Daniel's family at 1-877-231-7900, or sign his guest book at www.borekjennings.com.

Jermyn Edward Dolan

Dec. 20, 1938 – Jan. 11, 2021

Jermyn Edward Dolan, 83, of Sawyer passed away Jan. 11, 2021.

He was born to the late Bennet Dolan and Francis Grimm on Dec. 20, 1938, in Chicago.

On Sept. 3, 1960, he married Elsie Weikel and together they had three children.

He is survived by his wife, Elsie Dolan; son, Jerry (Jackie) Dolan; daughters: Sandra Dolan, Mary Dolan; brother, Ben Dolan; sister, Celeste Warda; grandchildren: Michael (Lisa) Dolan, Lynn Dolan, Brandon (Maddison) Scott, Sam (Emily) Jablonowski; great-grandchildren: Lilly Dolan, Mican Scott.

He is preceded in death by parents: Bennet and Francis Dolan.

Cremation has taken place. Arrangements have been entrusted to Hoven Funeral Home, Buchanan. Online condolences may be made at www.hovenfunerals.com.

James M. Rutz

June 26, 1968 – Jan. 1, 2021

James M. Rutz, 52, of Dowagiac passed away Friday, Jan. 1, 2021.

A celebration of life gathering will be from 2 to 5 p.m. at Starks & Menchinger Chapel & Cremation Services, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis TN, 38105. Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

James was born on June 26, 1968, to Roland and Marilyn (Walker) Rutz. He graduated from Berrien Springs High School in 1987 and then proudly served his country in the U.S. Army/Air Force before being honorably discharged. James earned 16 medals, including the Liberalization medals for Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

James was a member of the U.N. peacekeeping force in Bosnia and Croatia, Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. After his military career, James went overseas as a contractor. James worked in the facilities maintenance department for Cook Nuclear Plant for over 13 year. He enjoyed working on and building computers, as well as hunting and fishing.

James is survived by his siblings: Rhonda (Bob) Fuery of Wisconsin, and John Rutz of Stevensville; nephews: Aaron Gibson, John Rutz Jr., and Scott Eyerly.

James was preceded in death by his parents: Roland and Marilyn Rutz; and brother, Robert Rutz.

See more obituaries on Page A6

DO YOU REMEMBER?

1996 – 25 years ago

The Blossomtime Festival plans to hold a reunion of former Miss Blossomtime queens May 3-5 in honor of the 90th anniversary of the festival. The committee planning the event is looking for all former queens from 1924-95. Members of the Miss Blossomtime courts are also invited so they can be included in the festivities.

1986 – 35 years ago

Powerful rebounding has placed Bridgman in the favorite's role in Class D basketball this season. The Bees have not been outrebounded while posting an 8-0 record and capturing the No. 1 spot in the Associated Press' Class D poll. Bridgman's intensity underneath has helped the team grab an amazing 64 percent of the total rebounds in its eight games. The top rebounding force for Bridgman has been 6-foot-4 senior forward Brett Germain.

1971 – 50 years ago

Michigan State Police, passing motorists and area residents mobilized early today to put down an invasion of road hogs. The last of the escaping offenders were still being rounded up and confined in hastily thrown-up snow-fence pens. The hogs, according to troopers from the New Buffalo Post, escaped from an overturned semitrailer on U.S. 12 in Three Oaks. "We think there were about 60 of them," said one witness, "but did you ever try counting scared hogs on the loose?"

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 13, the 13th day of 2021. There are 352 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On Jan. 13, 1982, an Air Florida 737 crashed into Washington, D.C.'s 14th Street Bridge and fell into the Potomac River while trying to take off during a snowstorm, killing a total of 78 people, including four motorists on the bridge; four passengers and a flight attendant survived.

On this date:

In 1733, James Oglethorpe and some 120 English colonists arrived at Charleston, South Carolina, while en route to settle in present-day Georgia.

In 1794, President George Washington approved a measure adding two stars and two stripes to the American flag, following the admission of Vermont and Kentucky to the Union. (The number of stripes was later reduced to the original 13.)

In 1898, Emile Zola's famous defense of Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, "J'accuse," was published in Paris.

In 1941, a new law went into effect granting Puerto Ricans U.S. birthright citizenship. Novelist and poet James Joyce died in Zurich, Switzerland, less than a month before his 59th birthday.

In 1964, Roman Catholic Bishop Karol Wojtyla (the future Pope John Paul II) was appointed Archbishop of Krakow, Poland, by Pope Paul VI.

In 1967, the Rolling Stones' double-A sided single "Let's Spend the Night Together" and "Ruby Tuesday" was released in the United Kingdom by Decca Records. (It was released the following day in the United States on the London label.)

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Few Snow Showers	Few Snow Showers	Few Snow Showers
40°	32°	41° / 31°	36° / 26°	32° / 24°	30° / 23°

Local Outlook

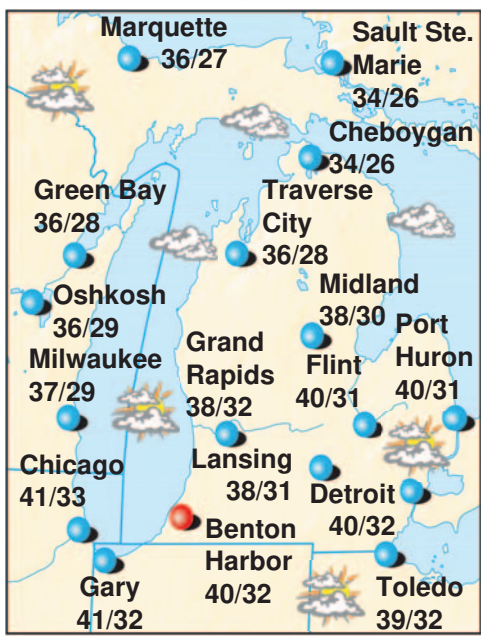
Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 40°, humidity of 75%. South southwest wind 10 to 14 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 32°. South southwest wind 8 to 11 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 27°.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise	8:12 a.m.
Sunset	5:37 p.m.
Moonrise	8:51 a.m.
Moonset	6:08 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
1/13	1/20	1/28	2/4

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	37°
Low	23°
Normal High	31°
Normal Low	16°
Record High	63° in 2005
Record Low	2° in 2016

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.76"
Normal for month	0.65"
Year to date	0.76"
Normal Year to date	0.65"

Air Quality

Yesterday 66

Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

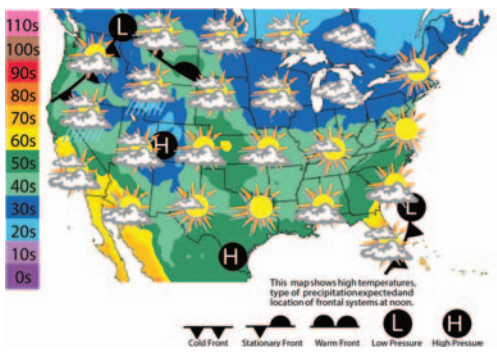
Weather Trivia

What type of clouds do thunderstorms develop from? ?

Answer: Cumulonimbus clouds.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Jan. 13, 2021



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, SW wind 13 to 15 kt. A slight chance of drizzle. Waves 2 to 3 ft. Water temperature 38 degrees. Tonight, SW wind 10 to 14 kt. A slight chance of drizzle. Waves around 2 ft.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with highs in the 30s. West southwest wind 7 to 10 mph. Expect cloudy skies Thursday with isolated snow, highs in the 30s. East southeast wind 7 to 13 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with highs in the 30s and 40s. South southwest wind 10 to 14 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Thursday with highs in the 30s and 40s. South wind 10 to 14 mph.

OBITUARIES

Wayne Austin Denton Sr.

Sept. 29, 1930 – Jan. 11, 2021

Wayne Austin Denton Sr., 90, of rural Roann, Ind., died at 10 p.m., Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, at his home.

He was born on Sept. 29, 1930, in Searcy, Ark., to Jack and Nora (Smith) Denton.

Wayne was a U.S. Army veteran serving during the Korean Conflict.

He married Betty Irene Lewis in Searcy, Ark., on May 30, 1950; she died Sept. 28, 1995.

He was an electrician for Wollins Plastic Factory in St. Joe. Wayne was a member of the VFW and American Legion in Niles. He enjoyed golfing, fishing, hunting and camping.

He is survived by seven children: Joyce (Nels) Stohl of Florissant, Colo., Bill (Maria) Denton of Owensville, Ky., Dwight (Susie) Denton of Roann, Richard (Latonya) Denton of St. Joe, Robert (Sandra) Denton of Roann, Patty (Ricky) Rabideau of Mooers Forks, N.Y., and August (Albert) Denton of Long Beach, Calif.; 24 grandchildren; 43 great-grandchildren; and several great-great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by his parents; son, Wayne Austin Denton Jr.; three grandsons; one great-grandson; and 15 brothers and sisters.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 335 S. Chippewa Road, Roann. Burial will be in Roann Community Cemetery, Roann. Friends may call from 12:30 p.m. until time of service, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorial is Roann Food Pantry.

The memorial guest book for Wayne may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Jerry Dewayne Fentress

Sept. 6, 1956 – Jan. 11, 2021

Jerry Dewayne Fentress, 64, of Eau Claire died Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, at West Woods of Bridgman.

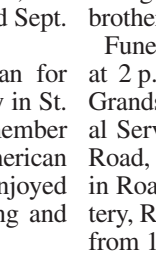
Funeral services will be Thursday, Dec. 14, with visitation at 1 p.m. and the funeral at 2 p.m., at Bowerman Funeral Home in Eau Claire. Messages for the family may be left online at www.bowermanfuneral.com.

Jerry was born on Sept. 6, 1956, in Benton Harbor, the son of Robert Scott and Norma Jean (Parritt) Fentress. He had been employed by the Eau Claire Fruit Exchange.

Survivors include his daughter, Christie Ann Dunn; two brothers: Darvin and Richard Fentress; two half-brothers; five half-sisters; his uncle and aunt: Robert and Peggy Pendergrass; and three grandchildren: Jerry Lee Fentress, Justin Michael Doan, and Harley Jean Dunn.

Todd Douglas Marschke

June 2, 1964 – Jan. 9, 2021



Todd Douglas Marschke, 56, of St. Claire Shores passed away Jan. 9, 2021.

Todd was born on June 2, 1964 in St. Joseph to Harley Marschke and Virginia (Ott) Marschke.

After graduating from Berrien Springs High School, Todd attended Western Michigan University, then went on to Michigan State University to complete his master's degree in marketing. In the past, Todd worked for Ford Motor Co., and Spot Cable TV.

Todd is survived by his sisters: Connie (Gary) Caranci of Marcellus, Mich., and Jan (Charles) Albright of St. Joseph.

Cremation has taken place. There will be no visitation or service at this time.

See more obituaries on Page A5

Detroit mayor: 600-700 calls per hour for vaccinations

DETROIT (AP) — Operators scheduling COVID-19 vaccinations for elderly Detroit residents were receiving 600 to 700 calls per hour Tuesday for appointments as people seek more vaccines than currently are available.

The city has started scheduled vaccinations for residents 75 and older and will begin offering them to people 65 and older once more doses are received from the federal government, Mayor Mike Duggan told reporters Tuesday.

Detroit received about 120,000 calls Monday, but many were not eligible yet for the vaccine, Duggan added.

On Monday, the state began offering vaccines to Michigan residents 65 and older in addition to frontline workers like police officers, first responders, teachers and child-care workers.

RIDGE ROAD

From page A1

the county road department, answered several questions over the phone regarding the upcoming project, as well as what the township could do going forward.

"We haven't done an in-depth survey of this road yet," said Stack. "If we go down there and widen these roads, there will be a lot of trees that will come down. Rebuilding the shoulder and adding sidewalks could be an extra cost. ... Ball park number is $250,000 to $300,000 for concrete sidewalks."

Residents spoke out frequently regarding the road's speed limit.

The road has gone from 25 mph, to 55 mph, then back down to 40 mph after the most recent speed study.

Stack reminded them the road department does not set the speed limit.

"The state police does that. If anyone asks for a speed study, we remind them that if 85 percent of the traffic is traveling 50 mph, that speed limit will go up," he said.

Jason Latham, managing director of the county road department, said the likely course of action at the moment would be a 2-inch overlay on the shoulder of the road that would be stable enough to walk on. However, he said that kind of gravel shoulder would ultimately lead to grass growing through the material.

"These two projects don't have to be built together this summer," Latham reminded trustees. "We're trying to get our summer projects planned and bid out ahead of time. The road department is open to getting some options together and bringing it back to the township for another public meeting. We're here to work with you and listen to your concerns."

Stauffer previously said the estimated project cost would be $472,000, if the county also widens the shoulders by the five feet on either side.

Despite no action being taken on the proposed project, Clerk Stacy Loar-Porter said this was the most input they've gotten from residents regarding the road.

She added this was the first petition the township received regarding sidewalks since the 1990s.

The next Lincoln Township board meeting is at 7 p.m. on Feb. 9.

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @Tony-Wittkowski

HIRING

From page A1

implemented to increase diversity and create a culture of inclusiveness among the city's departments, Wise said she is starting to see some progress.

But for members of the Black community who heard the report, the efforts so far aren't enough.

South Haven resident Joe Wilkins alleged over the summer the city's HR department had the opportunity to hire what he called "a very qualified black lady" for a job opening, but didn't do so.

"I am extremely concerned about the HR Report and what appears to be a problem with hiring people of color, particularly Blacks when there is a full-time job opening, especially within City Hall," Wilkins said. "I keep hearing your policies are OK. But what I found out by studies, that policies can be right, but the culture wrong. ... You're not hearing concerns expressed by the community. The Black community is tired."

Another city resident agreed.

"The city has grown but it hasn't grown equally," Freddy Sanders said. "We have a diverse set of people and our city doesn't show it. There's a lot of nepotism in the system. It's not fair to our community. We would appreciate if we were more included in this community. We live here, spend money here."

Several city council members agreed with sentiments expressed by members of the public.

"It's one thing for HR and the council to think we're doing as much as we can, but what does the community think?" Council member Joe Reeser said. "That's where we have a real divide. We have to do a better job of listening to minorities, in particular, Blacks."

Employment data that Wise has collected underscores the need for a more diversified workforce.

Data from 2013 to the end of 2020 shows that of the 198 current and previous full-time, part-time and seasonal employees the city hired during that time period, 87 percent were white. The remaining workers were either Latino, Black, Native American, or of two or more races.

A graph of just the full-time employees paints an even more stark picture of the city staff's lack of diversity. Of 107 current or former employees counted during the same time period, 94 percent are white.

The numbers not only bother minorities who'd like to work for the city, they also bother Wise, who last June implemented "blind hiring" practices in which the Human Resources department removes the name and street address of candidates from job applications prior to sending the forms to department managers.

"This was implemented in an effort to reduce/eliminate unconscious bias," Wise said. Other efforts to ensure objectivity include assigning numbers to each application instead of a candidate's name. Hiring managers must also use a list of pre-determined questions to ensure they do not ask candidates personal questions.

"We've also added a diversity-related question for all interviews," Wise said.

The strategies appear to be paying off.

Employment data collected from 2013 to September 2019 shows that 91 percent of full- and part-time workers hired during that time period were white workers. However the percentage of all new hires after Sept. 2, 2019 shows that the percentage of white employees decreased to 70 percent.

The number of full-time white hires also dipped. Those hired prior to Sept. 2, 2019, stood at 95 percent, while the percentage of white employees hired after Sept. 2, 2019, dipped to 89 percent.

More work needs to be done to improve the city's diversity and inclusiveness practices, Wise stressed, but it won't happen overnight.

"While many initiatives have been put into place, we have other ideas that we wish to implement once COVID restrictions are lifted," Wise said. "However, city leadership cannot make all of these changes on our own; this must be a community effort. We must work with our community partners to educate our community members on employment opportunities and make sure that our community members have the skills necessary to be successful in an ever-changing workforce."

Some of Wise's initiatives proposed for 2021 include: Creation of an Equal Employment Opportunity Plan; active recruiting of diverse candidates rather than passively waiting for them to apply; budget for internship opportunities that are geared toward minorities; do a better job of communicating diversity initiatives to the city council and the community.

GETTY

From page A1

full commission; or having the full commission interview all candidates.

"I don't think it's appropriate at this time for the city commission to just pick one person," Mayor Mike Garey said. City Manager John Hodgson agreed. He said the last time a commission seat was opened to the community at large, there were nine applicants, then one dropped out and eight were interviewed.

After much discussion, the commission agreed to open the opportunity to all residents, but did not decide on an interview method.

Applications will be due by 5 p.m. Feb. 4, and the commission then will decide on an interview method at its Feb. 8 meeting, depending on the number of applicants.

Information about how to apply will be posted on the city's website, and outlined in a news release later this week, Garey said.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

hp SPORTS

Alabama's Nick Saban already working on chasing title No. 8

By JOHN ZENOR
Associated Press

Nick Saban wasn't ready to contemplate his legacy moments after capturing a record seventh national championship "because you're always looking forward."

It was time to start chasing No. 8, after all. The Crimson Tide capped off a 13-0 season with a 52-24 win over Ohio State Monday night in the national championship game at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida.

"The to-do list started after the game last night," the 69-year-old coach, who is showing no signs of slowing down, said at a Tuesday morning news conference.

A block party began right after the game as well, with Tide fans flooding the streets of Tuscaloosa near the campus despite officials warning against large gatherings during the pandemic that could lead to outbreaks.

In South Florida, the championship celebration for Saban didn't last very long. They never do.

The work started by meeting "right after the game" with players considering leaving early to enter the NFL draft, along with seniors who are eligible to return because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Next up on his to-do list is polishing off another loaded recruiting class and replacing offensive coordinator Steve Sarkisian, who is taking over at Texas. Saban declined to give any timetable for making that hire.

None of this is new for Saban, known for his singular focus and ability to annually replace elite talent on both

See SABAN, page B2

Lynne Sladky / AP

Alabama coach Nick Saban leaves the field after defeating Ohio State in the College Football Playoff championship game Monday.

Carlos Osorio / AP

Michigan guard Chaundee Brown reacts next to Wisconsin forwards Aleem Ford, left, and Micah Potter after a dunk during the second half of Tuesday's game.

Another blowout victory

No. 7 Michigan builds 40-point lead in top-10 rout of No. 9 Wisconsin

By NOAH TRISTER
Associated Press

ANN ARBOR — Juwan Howard watched his team turn another highly anticipated matchup into a blowout.

Michigan 77 Wisconsin 54

First, Michigan pushed its lead to 17 at halftime. Then it was 30. Then, unbelievably, the Wolverines led No. 9 Wisconsin by 40 points near the midway point of the second half.

"It says a lot about their maturity – understanding that every possession counts and matters," said Howard, in his second season as Michigan's coach. "Wisconsin's a team that's capable of going on runs, and basketball is based on runs."

On this night, it was No. 7 Michigan that made the big run – and that's an understatement. The Wolverines outscored the Badgers 43-6 over a stretch that spanned parts of both halves, and Michigan remained unbeaten with a 77-54 win Tuesday.

Mike Smith had 16 points and six assists for the Wolverines. Franz Wagner added 15 points and 10 rebounds. It was another masterpiece for Michigan (11-0, 6-0 Big Ten), which became first team in college basketball history to beat three ranked opponents in a row by at least 19 points.

"They're coached very well. They have a lot of players and they have playmakers on both ends of the floor," said D'Mitrik Trice, who led Wisconsin with 20 points. "A lot of guys that can get up and run the floor. A lot of shooters. And, they space the floor really well. They're very disciplined in what they need to get accomplished. It just shows."

Michigan set the tone for this one with its rim protection. The Badgers (10-3, 4-2) struggled to finish plays around the basket early on, and the Wolverines had six blocked shots in the first half alone.

Michigan led 26-23 before scoring the last 14 points of the half. A steal and dunk by Wagner made it 33-23. Smith followed that with a steal and a layup. Wagner then drove the baseline and dunked for a 14-point advantage.

The start of the second half wasn't any better for Wisconsin. A 3-pointer by Eli Brooks made it 47-26, and a 3 by Smith made it 54-26. Finally, a layup by Chaundee Brown gave Michigan an almost incomprehensible 69-29 lead.

"You definitely don't expect that coming into the game," Wagner said. "Knowing how we worked, what we did in the summer, I'm just happy that it pays off."

The last time Michigan started the season with a run like this was when the Wolverines were 17-0 during the 2018-19 season. Wisconsin actually ended that unbeaten streak, but the Badgers didn't come close to a repeat performance.

Big picture

Wisconsin: The Badgers have been a bit of a thorn in Michigan's side over the years, and they entered this game having won seven of their last 10 at Crisler Center. But this time, their 3-point shooting (9 of 28) was not nearly enough to make up for all their problems inside the arc.

Michigan: After taking down three

See MICHIGAN, page B2

Hendriks addition a big boost to White Sox bullpen

By LAMOND POPE
Chicago Tribune (TNS)

Liam Hendriks began his big-league career as a starter but has become one of the game's best closers.

The Chicago White Sox reportedly signed Hendriks late Monday to a three-year deal, with a team option for a fourth season, for $54 million guaranteed.

The right-hander was the top free agent reliever on the market.

He won the American League Reliever of the Year Award in 2020 while pitching for the Oakland Athletics.

"What that does, if you have a legitimate closer, it helps you set up the rest of the bullpen and it also has an effect on your opponents knowing that the game has gotten short," Sox manager Tony La Russa said in December when asked of the importance of having a proven reliever in the role."

With Alex Colome a free agent, one of the top offseason questions for the Sox centered around the team's closer role. Hendriks provides the answer, and is one more reason why the Sox should be one of the favorites in the AL.

Hendriks received votes for the AL Cy Young Award and AL MVP in 2020.

He went 3-1 with a 1.78 ERA and 14 saves in 15 opportunities for the Athletics in 2020, earning the AL Reliever of the Year Award. He had 37 strikeouts and three walks in 25⅔ innings. He had 25 saves and a 1.80 ERA during his All-Star season in 2019, striking out 124 batters in 85 innings.

The Sox will be looking for that type of consistency in 2021.

Here's a breakdown, alphabetically, of the possible bullpen options for the upcoming season.

See SOX, page B2

Charles Rex Arbogast / AP

Chicago coach Jeremy Colliton sets up a drill during a training camp practice Monday.

Colliton agrees to 2-year extension as Blackhawks coach

By JAY COHEN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Jeremy Colliton replaced a beloved figure with the Chicago Blackhawks. Then his first full season with the team was interrupted by a pandemic.

That's a lot of adversity for a first-time NHL coach, but Colliton thinks it made him better at his job. He is looking forward to putting everything he learned to good use.

Colliton agreed to a two-year contract extension Tuesday, receiving a vote of confidence from President of Hockey Operations Stan Bowman on the eve of his third season behind the bench.

"I've had a chance to know Jeremy for a couple of years now and, you know, really solidified that connection that we've had," Bowman said. "And the way that we see the game, the direction that we're heading and what we want to focus on in the coming years. I think he's a great candidate to move that forward."

Colliton took over after Joel Quenneville was fired in November 2018, becoming the 38th coach in franchise history. Quenneville led the team to three Stanley Cup titles, and Colliton stepped into a room full of players who had grown accustomed to the system and mannerisms of the former NHL defenseman.

It was a rough transition. The Blackhawks dropped 14 of his first 17 games in charge. But they started to play better at the end of his first year and then took advantage of the NHL's expanded postseason last year, winning a four-game series against Edmonton before being eliminated by Vegas.

See COLLITON, page B2

NHL gambles on going outside the bubble

By STEPHEN WHYNO
AP Hockey Writer

When the NHL charter flight back from the Edmonton bubble landed in New Jersey, Gary Bettman's phone started ringing.

The commissioner thought he'd get a couple of weeks to exhale after awarding the Stanley Cup to the Tampa Bay Lightning. Instead, it was back to work.

Of course, planning for the 2021 season began well before late September. It took a long-term extension of the collective bargaining agreement between the league and players' union, layers of health and safety protocols, realigned divisions and convincing multiple government agencies that it is safe to play.

The season opens Wednesday and Bettman estimates the league will lose over $1 billion even by playing. It's a gamble everyone was willing to make to keep hockey going during the pandemic.

"It would be cheaper for us to shut the doors and not play," Bettman said Monday. "We're coming back to play this season because we think it's important for the game, because our fans and our players want us to, and it may give people, particularly those who are back in isolation or where there are curfews, a sense of normalcy and something to do."

None of the four major North American men's professional sports leagues rely as much on attendance as the NHL: Roughly 50 percent of all revenue comes from ticket sales, concessions and other in-arena elements. That's why the league and players prioritized extending the CBA before completing last season in twin playoff bubbles; they knew no fans slashes revenue for everyone.

The agreement gave the NHL a blueprint to operate and labor peace through at least 2026.

"You always have to make judgments about what you think the future's going to hold and how do you attempt to maximize the benefits and minimize the detriments, mitigate your risks, take advantage of opportunities and so on," NHLPA executive director Don Fehr said in a phone interview. "I think the agreement that we reached last summer, certainly from the players' standpoint, was fair and reasonable and appropriate, and took all of those things into account. And I don't second guess it."

Living by the terms of that agreement means some short-term pain for owners now, and Bettman warned recently that players could have to repay some money later based on the 50/50 split of revenue. But that was just one part of the puzzle of pulling all this together, which started with when to begin play and how to do it.

With the clock ticking down in mid-December, the sides agreed to open training camps for most teams just after Jan. 1 and drop the puck Jan. 13. Each team is scheduled to play 56 all

See NHL, page B2

COLLITON

From page B1

"I think Jeremy's been great to me and I think the whole team since the day he came in here," forward Alex DeBrincat said. "He is really hands-on, likes to talk a lot. Gives feedback, tells you pretty much exactly what he wants from you. So I think the communication there is great and it's obviously helped me a lot and I think, moving forward, it can even help more."

Colliton was coaching Rockford in the American Hockey League when he got the job with Chicago. He also coached in Sweden before taking over the IceHogs.

In all of his coaching stops, Colliton said it takes some time before he returns to trusting his ability. Colliton, who played in 57 games with the New York Islanders, has a 62-58-17 record with the Blackhawks, and his extension runs through the 2022-23 season.

"I think you're only human to have some self-doubt and you second-guess things and is this the right thing?" he said. "And what I always come back to is when I start to trust myself a little more, and that seems to be the right direction. Just trust your gut. Trust your instincts."

Colliton faces another tough test this year after Bowman put an increased emphasis on developing the team's young players heading into the pandemic-shortened season. It is Bowman's version of a rebuild for a team that still has Patrick Kane and a group of proud, accomplished veterans.

It's up to Colliton to continue the development of the team's younger players while keeping the veterans engaged – even if the losses pile up.

"I'm excited about working with young players, no question, but I mean, I love vets, too," he said. "You need them. It's hard to win with a bunch of young guys. So, as a player, we always looked up to the guys who'd been in the league 10, 12 years and just the wisdom that they can bring and, you know, they work with the coach to help run the team. And so that's an important part of what I do."

The Blackhawks will be without a couple key veterans when they open this season on Colliton's 36th birthday on Wednesday at Stanley Cup champion Tampa Bay.

Forward Carl Soderberg is in quarantine after his arrival was delayed by a U.S. visa issue. He could play in the team's home opener on Jan. 22 against Detroit. The team has been quiet when it comes to the status of defenseman Brent Seabrook, but Bowman said he hasn't skated yet and will need a couple weeks for conditioning once he returns to the ice.

SOX

From page B1

Aaron Bummer

The left-hander was limited to nine appearances and 9⅔ innings during the 2020 regular season because of a left biceps strain. He allowed just one run on five hits, finishing 1-0 with a 0.96 ERA, 14 strikeouts and five walks.

Bummer had three holds in 2020 after tying for sixth in the AL in 2019 with 27.

Bummer has been the team's top setup man and has shown the ability to excel if needed for two innings.

Jimmy Cordero

The right-hander didn't pitch every game in 2020 – it just felt that way. He was second in the AL with 30 relief appearances.

Cordero went 1-2 with a 6.08 ERA, 22 strikeouts and nine walks in 26 innings.

His availability on nearly a nightly basis is one of his strengths.

Cordero was suspended during the final series of the regular season after hitting Cubs catcher Willson Contreras with a pitch. Cordero appealed, and any suspension would take place in 2021.

Garrett Crochet

The Sox selected the left-hander with the No. 11 pick in the 2020 draft. It didn't take long for him to make an impact at the major-league level.

Crochet was called up from the Schaumburg training facility Sept. 18, and he displayed a blazing fastball that was clocked at triple digits. Forty-five of his 85 pitches (52.9 percent) in the regular season were 100-plus mph.

Crochet allowed three hits in six scoreless innings with eight strikeouts and no walks. He was the first option out of the bullpen in Game 3 of the wild-card series against the Athletics, but left with tightness in his left forearm.

General manager Rick Hahn gave an update in October, saying Crochet had a flexor strain and that the ulnar collateral ligament was clean. He added that Crochet should be without restriction in the spring.

The long-term plans are for Crochet to be a starter. He could be used in a multi-inning relief role this season and also see some time in the minors as he begins making the transition.

Matt Foster

The right-hander aided the Sox in multiple ways during his rookie season.

He appeared in 23 games, including two starts as an opener. That versatility could come in handy again in 2021.

Foster went 6-1 with a 2.20 ERA and 31 strikeouts in 28 innings, and began his career with 14 consecutive scoreless innings.

He appeared in Game 3 of the wild-card series, allowing two walks with the bases loaded in one-third of an inning.

Jace Fry

The left-hander had a career-low 3.66 ERA in 18 appearances in 2020.

Fry went 0-1 with one hold, 24 strikeouts and 12 walks in 19 innings. Opponents batted .225 (16-for-71) against Fry.

Fry, who gives the team left-handed relief depth, and the Sox came to terms on a one-year deal for $862,500 on Dec. 2 to avoid arbitration.

Codi Heuer

The right-hander, like Crochet and Foster, impressed as a rookie.

Heuer went was 3-0 with a 1.52 ERA, 25 strikeouts and nine walks in 23 innings. He did not allow a run in 18 of his 21 regular-season outings.

Heuer pitched a scoreless eighth inning in Game 2 of the wild-card series but surrendered a two-run homer in Game 3.

He likely will be called upon in those key in high-leverage situations again in 2021.

Evan Marshall

Chicago White Sox relief pitcher Evan Marshall looks to toss away a scuffed ball in the fifth inning against the St. Louis Cardinals at Guaranteed Rate Field on Aug. 15, 2020.

The right-hander has been a dependable setup man for the Sox.

Marshall is 6-3 with a 2.45 ERA, 27 holds and 71 strikeouts in 78 outings in his two seasons with the team.

He went 2-1 with a 2.38 ERA, eight holds, 30 strikeouts and seven walks in 23 appearances in 2020. One of his more memorable outings came Sept. 14 against the Twins when he struck out Nelson Cruz with the bases loaded to end a sixth-inning jam.

Marshall signed a one-year, $2 million deal Dec. 31, avoiding arbitration.

Additional bullpen arms for the Sox could include right-handers Jimmy Lambert, Jose Ruiz, Zack Burdi and Tyler Johnson. Lambert missed most of 2020 because of a right forearm strain.

SCOREBOARD

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Monday, Jan. 11
COLLEGE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
Miami Gardens, Fla.
No. 1 Alabama 52, No. 3 Ohio St. 24

The AP Top 25

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 11, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Alabama (61)	13-0	1525	1
2. Ohio St.	7-1	1463	3
3. Clemson	10-2	1378	2
4. Texas A&M	9-1	1303	5
5. Notre Dame	10-2	1279	4
6. Oklahoma	9-2	1243	8
7. Georgia	8-2	1144	11
8. Cincinnati	9-1	1074	6
9. Iowa St.	9-3	1035	12
10. Northwestern	7-2	893	15
11. BYU	11-1	862	13
12. Indiana	6-2	773	7
13. Florida	8-4	764	10
14. Coastal Carolina	11-1	725	9
15. Louisiana-Lafayette	10-1	664	16
16. Iowa	6-2	581	17
17. Liberty	10-1	576	23
18. North Carolina	8-4	532	14
19. Texas	7-3	485	20
20. Oklahoma St.	8-3	417	-
21. Southern Cal	5-1	306	21
22. Miami	8-3	284	18
23. Ball St.	7-1	183	-
24. San Jose St.	7-1	80	19
25. Buffalo	6-1	51	-

Others receiving votes: Appalachian St. 41, Tulsa 35, Army 24, Oregon 21, Texas Tech 21, Memphis 12, TCU 12, UAB 10, Washington 10, NC State 7, Nevada 7, Wisconsin 3, West Virginia 1, Marshall 1.

NFL

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS
Saturday, Jan. 16
Los Angeles Rams at Green Bay, 4:35 p.m.
Baltimore at Buffalo, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 17
Cleveland at Kansas City, 3:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at New Orleans, 6:40 p.m.

NHL

Wednesday's Games
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m.
Montreal at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Tampa Bay, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Edmonton, 10 p.m.
St. Louis at Colorado, 10:30 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Boston at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Washington at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Columbus at Nashville, 8 p.m.
San Jose at Arizona, 9 p.m.
Vancouver at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Anaheim at Vegas, 10 p.m.
Minnesota at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.
Dallas at Florida, ppd
Friday's Games
Chicago at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Washington at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Dallas at Florida, ppd

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	7	3	.700	—
Philadelphia	8	4	.667	—
Brooklyn	6	6	.500	2
New York	5	6	.455	2½
Toronto	2	8	.200	5

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	6	5	.545	—
Charlotte	6	5	.545	—
Atlanta	5	5	.500	½
Miami	4	5	.444	1
Washington	3	8	.273	3

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	7	4	.636	—
Indiana	6	4	.600	½
Cleveland	5	7	.417	2½
Chicago	4	7	.364	3
Detroit	2	8	.200	4½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	5	4	.556	—
San Antonio	6	5	.545	—
New Orleans	4	5	.444	1
Memphis	4	6	.400	1½
Houston	3	6	.333	2

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	7	4	.636	—
Portland	6	4	.600	½
Oklahoma City	5	5	.500	1½
Denver	5	6	.455	2
Minnesota	3	7	.300	3½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	9	3	.750	—
L.A. Clippers	7	4	.636	1½
Phoenix	7	4	.636	1½
Golden State	6	4	.600	2
Sacramento	5	6	.455	3½

Monday's Games
Milwaukee 121, Orlando 99
Charlotte 109, New York 88
Washington 128, Phoenix 107
Memphis 101, Cleveland 91
Atlanta 112, Philadelphia 94
Portland 112, Toronto 111
Sacramento 127, Indiana 122
New Orleans at Dallas, ppd
Tuesday's Games
Utah 117, Cleveland 87
Brooklyn 122, Denver 116
Philadelphia 137, Miami 134, OT
L.A. Lakers 117, Houston 100
San Antonio 112, Oklahoma City 102
Boston at Chicago, ppd
Indiana at Golden State
Wednesday's Games
Dallas at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Utah at Washington, 7 p.m.
Brooklyn at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at Boston, ppd
L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Memphis at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Atlanta at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
New Orleans at L.A. Clippers, 10 p.m.
Portland at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Miami at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Golden State at Denver, 10 p.m.
Indiana at Portland, 10 p.m.

MICHIGAN

From page B1

straight ranked teams by an average of 22.3 points, the only real concern for the Wolverines at this stage is they might be playing their best basketball in January. If they look anything like this in March, they should be considered a national title contender.

Deceiving

What's remarkable about this stretch for Michigan is the final scores don't tell the whole story of the Wolverines' dominance. Michigan led by 29 against Northwestern before winning by 19. The Wolverines led by 37 against Minnesota before winning by 25.

Carlos Osorio / AP

Wisconsin guard Jonathan Davis passes the ball around Michigan guard Franz Wagner (during the first half of Tuesday's game.

NBA, union stiffen virus protocols

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

With four games called off this week already and more teams dealing with virus-related issues, the NBA and the National Basketball Players Association enacted additional rules Tuesday in the hope of keeping the season going safely.

Among the new policies: for "at least the next two weeks," the league and union said, players and team staff will have to remain at their residence when in their home markets and prohibited from leaving their hotels or having outside guests when on the road.

Many of the new rules are similar to what existed in the NBA's restart bubble at Walt Disney World in Central Florida last year.

Orlando's game in Boston on Wednesday was also called off, the fourth postponement since Sunday and the third involving the Celtics. Boston currently has eight players listed as unavailable because they are on the NBA's health and safety protocols list – which means they either tested positive or may have been exposed to someone who is positive.

"We're just going to follow what the NBA" says, Washington coach Scott Brooks said. "I mean, they're the experts. They have all the medical, they have all the science, they have everything, all the data. ... I'm for whatever the NBA wants us to do."

All that is permitted in home markets, for now, is "to attend team-related activities at the team facility or arena, exercise outside, or perform essential activities," the league and union said. On the road, team activities and emergencies are the only allowable reasons for leaving.

The Wizards said Tuesday that two of their players are going on the protocols list. The Magic are also supposed to play the Celtics on Friday in Boston; no determination about that game has been announced.

Additional actions taken Tuesday include a new rule prohibiting any pregame meetings in locker rooms from lasting more than 10 minutes, and when those meetings take place everyone involved must wear a mask. Meetings in larger areas, such as courts, must take place with adherence to social distancing and with masks.

Players now have to limit interactions with other players to elbow or fist bumps, with no extended socializing.

NHL

From page B1

divisional games during the regular season set to run until May 8, though the Dallas Stars' outbreak and delayed start has already forced the question of how to handle various situations.

On the eve of the season opener, the league announced Tuesday 17 of the 27 players with confirmed positive test results for the coronavirus from Dec. 30-Jan. 11 are on Dallas, with the other 10 from eight other teams.

There's no hard and fast rule on how many positive test results would endanger a game and the addition of taxi squads of four to six players mitigates the risk. Watching other leagues postpone and reschedule games has helped, as has regular communication among medical experts.

"We've had the opportunity to learn a lot from each other because there's so little science behind what's going on because it's happened so quickly," NHL chief medical officer Dr. Winne Meeuwisse said. "Everything from infection control to testing strategies, how we interpret test results, how we act on positives, how we manage cases are all things that that we share on an anonymous basis so that we are able to refine what we do and do the best job we can of keeping the players and everybody around the game safe."

Players are tested daily and all arenas except for three – Florida Panthers, Arizona Coyotes and the Stars – will not have fans as the season gets going. The league realigned its teams to include an all-Canadian division to avoid border crossing hassle; questions remain about where the San Jose Sharks will play home games because of a ban on team sports in Santa Clara County, California.

SABAN

From page B1

the roster and his coaching staff. Saban broke a tie with Alabama predecessor Paul "Bear" Bryant for the most national titles by a major college coach, including one he captured at LSU and six over the past dozen years in Tuscaloosa.

"It's an ongoing process, building a team," Saban said. "I don't think you can fall asleep at the switch for a minute if you want to try to do it the right way for your players and your program."

But Saban said this was one of his best teams, if not the best. Facing a regular-season schedule of all Southeastern Conference opponents because of the pandemic, Alabama breezed into the league title game having scarcely been challenged.

Only Florida in the SEC championship game came closer than 15 points. Neither semifinal opponent Notre Dame (31-14) nor the Buckeyes mustered much of a challenge.

Quarterback Mac Jones, a Heisman Trophy finalist who is exploring entering the NFL draft, left no doubt where he believes this team belongs historically: At the top.

"I think we're the best team to ever play," Jones said. "There's no team that will ever play an SEC schedule like that."

The 2009 Alabama team that went 14-0 is Saban's only other undefeated group.

And he left no doubt this one holds a special place for him because of how well Tide players negotiated the COVID-19 dangers and issues.

This team earned a place in his heart, and perhaps history. But now Saban has begun laying the foundation for next year's team.

There's plenty to do, and considerable talent poised to depart.

The Tide must replace most of its offensive stars, potentially including Jones, who already has a master's degree in sports hospitality and is projected as a likely late first-round NFL draft pick. Saban said he and the quarterback plan to talk "sometime here in the next day or two."

Heisman Trophy winner DeVonta Smith departs as the Southeastern Conference's most prolific receiver.

Alabama's all-time leading rusher, Najee Harris, also is headed to the NFL. So presumably are All-America offensive linemen Alex Leatherwood and Landon Dickerson from a group that Tide defensive lineman Christian Barmore proclaimed "the best offense in the whole world."

Junior cornerback Patrick Surtain II, the Jim Thorpe Award winner as the top defensive back, also is projected as a first-round pick. Barmore, a third-year sophomore, is also among the underclassmen with a decision to make.

Saban said this probably wasn't his most talented team overall, though offensively it would be hard to top.

"This was kind of the ultimate team," he said. "These guys were like a high school team in terms of how they got along together, how they supported each other, how they played together, how they overcame adversity."

Alabama's latest recruiting haul will help ease some of the loss of talent. The Tide's class has seven five-star prospects and ranks as the nation's best, according to the 247Sports composite rankings.

Four of those prized recruits – offensive tackles JC Latham and Tommy Brockermeyer, cornerback Ga'Quincy McKinstry and wide receiver Jacorey Brooks – are already enrolled.

And seniors like Smith and Harris, who returned this season hoping to claim a title and improve their draft stock, get to finish on top.

"I came back to get a degree and to win a national championship," Smith said. "That's why that meant so much to me, why I was just so happy about it. Two main boxes that I wanted to check off, I checked off."

Now Saban is checking off the usual items on his off-season to-do list.

PRIME TIME TV

WEDNESDAY EVENING JAN. 13

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Wheel of Fortune	The Goldbergs (N)	Housewife	The Conners (N)	Call Your Mother	The Chase Three competitors face off.	
CBS 2 3 22	Ent. Tonight	The Price Is Right at Night (N) CC		SEAL Team Ray tries to survive captivity.		S.W.A.T. The team hunts for a sniper.	
NBC 5 8 16	Ac. Hollywood	Chicago Med (N) CC (DVS)		Chicago Fire "Smash Therapy" (N)		Chicago P.D. "Tender Age" (N)	
FOX 17 22 28 32	Modern Family	The Masked Dancer (N) CC (DVS)		:02 Name That Tune "Episode 2" (N)		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS 34	Outdoor Elements	Nature Newborn animals in the Alps. (N)		NOVA The value of DNA testing. (N)		When Disaster Strikes (N) CC	
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	Riverdale CC		Nancy Drew CC		News	Seinfeld CC
MNT 50	Family Feud	Dateline "Buried Secrets" CC		Dateline "The Figure in the Garage"		Dateline "A Sister's Search"	
WCIU 26	Mike & Molly	Riverdale CC		Nancy Drew CC		The Drew Barrymore Show (N) CC	
WHME 46	:00 Heartland	Heartland "Summer's End"		Highway to Heaven "A Song for Jason"		Nightly News	
WGN 9	News	black-ish CC	black-ish CC	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L) CC	
A&E	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam (N)	Court Cam (N)	Wild	Wild
AMC	Lethal Weapon 4	★★★ Star Trek ('09) Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto. Chronicles the early days of the starship Enterprise and her crew. CC					
Animal	North-	North Woods Law: Uncuffed (N)				North Woods Law	
BET	I Can Do Bad All By Myself			Payne	As. Living	Tyler Perry's Sistas	
Big Ten	College Basketball			College Basketball Illinois at Nebraska. (N)			
Bravo	Housewives/OC	Housewives/OC		Housewives/OC		Real Housewives of Salt Lake City	
Cartoon	Gumball	Burgers	Burgers	American	American	Rick	Rick
Cinemax	5:57 Hellboy	★ Bio-Dome ('96) Pauly Shore, Stephen Baldwin. CC			:35 ★★★ Death at a Funeral ('07) Matthew MacFadyen.		
CMT	Last Man	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom
CNBC	S. Smith	Shark Tank CC		Shark Tank CC		Shark Tank	
CNN	OutFront	Anderson Cooper		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight	
Comedy	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk
Discovery	Undercover Bil	Undercover Billionaire "Hustle Up" Grant hustles for a big score. (N) CC					
Disney	Jessie	Liv-Mad.	Liv-Mad.	Raven	Raven	Big City	Bunk'd
DIY	Barnwood	Holmes Inspection		Holmes: Next Gen.		Holmes: Next Gen.	
E!	:00 ★ Coyote Ugly ('00)			:15 ★ Coyote Ugly ('00) CC			
ESPN	NBA Basketball Brooklyn Nets at New York Knicks. (N)					NBA Basketball	
ESPN2	College Basketball			College Basketball Texas Tech at Texas.			
ESPNC	Football	College Basketball From Jan. 15, 2013.				College Basketball	
Food	Grocery	Guy's Games		Guy's Games		Kitchen Crash CC	
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N) CC		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	NBA Basketball: Bucks at Pistons				Pistons	Pistons	Michigan
Freefrm	6:30 10 Things I Hate About You	The Devil Wears Prada ('06, Comedy-Drama) Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway. CC					
FX	X-Men: Days	★★★ Deadpool 2 ('18) Ryan Reynolds. Deadpool joins forces with a team of mutants to fight Cable.					Deadpool 2 ('18)
Golf	PGA	PGA Tour Golf Sony Open in Hawaii, Final Round. CC					
Hallmark	Love in Winter	June in January ('14, Romance-Comedy) Brooke D'Orsay, Wes Brown. CC				Golden Girls	Golden Girls
HBO	Independence	★★★ Point Break ('91, Action) Patrick Swayze, Keanu Reeves. CC				:05 30 Coins "The Mirror"	
History	Forged	Forged in Fire		Forged in Fire (N)		:03 Forged in Fire	
HGTV	Celebrity	House	House	Home Town: Ben's		Hunters	Hunt Intl
Learning	My 600-	My 600-Lb. Life "Carrie's Story" (N)				1000-Lb. Sisters	
Lifetime	Married-Sight	Married at First Sight "Countdown to Meltdown" ((SP)) Ten singles prepare to their big day. (N) CC					
MSNBC	ReidOut	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Ridic.	The Challenge "Double Agents"			Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Pickleball	White Sox Rewind					Outdoor
NFL	NFL Total	NFL Football Teams TBA. CC					
Nick	Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa			Sheldon	Sheldon	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Trafficked	Trafficked-van Zeller		Trafficked With Mariana van Zeller "Guns"			
Oxygen	:00 Snapped	Snapped (N) CC		Snapped Newlyweds are gunned down.		Snapped A home invasion gone wrong.	
Parmt	:00 ★ Grown Ups ('10)			:15 ★ Dirty Grandpa ('16) CC			
Showtime	★★★ Fast Times at Ridgemont High ('82) CC			★★★ The Lobster ('15, Romance-Comedy) Colin Farrell, Rachel Weisz. CC			
Starz	:22 ★ Dark Tide ('12, Adventure) Halle Berry, Olivier Martinez. CC				:18 ★★★ Tin Cup ('96, Comedy) Kevin Costner. CC		
STZENC	:18 ★★★★ Driving Miss Daisy ('89) Morgan Freeman.			★ The Intruder ('19, Suspense) Michael Ealy, Meagan Good. CC			
SyFy	6:15 X-Men III: The Last Stand ('06)	Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen ('09, Action) Shia LaBeouf, Megan Fox, Josh Duhamel. CC					
TBS	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal
TCM	Holiday, Rules	★★★ Murder by Death ('76, Comedy) Peter Falk. CC			:45 ★★ Clue ('85) Eileen Brennan, Martin Mull.		
TMC	★★ The 'Burbs	★★ A Dog's Journey ('19) Voice of Josh Gad, Kathryn Prescott. CC				★★ Five Feet Apart ('19) CC	
TNT	Ready	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (N) CC				Go-Big Show	
Travel	Mysteries	Mysteries of the Unknown (N) CC				True Paranormal	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond
USA	:00 NCIS	WWE NXT (N) (L) CC				Straight Up	★ Death Wish ('18)
VH1	★★ Lottery Ticket ('10) Bow Wow. CC					Stomp the Yard	
WGN-A	Last Man Standing	NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC	

Exercise can help with progression of MCI

DEAR DOCTOR: Our dad is 67 years old and just got a diagnosis of mild cognitive impairment. His doctor told us that getting regular exercise can help. I've never heard this before. Is there a scientific basis, or is the idea just for dad to stay healthy?

DEAR READER: Mild cognitive impairment, also referred to as MCI, is a worsening of the skills we use to learn, reason and remember. It affects up to one-fifth of adults over the age of 65. Although, as the name of the condition suggests, the changes to cognition are slight, they are, nonetheless, noticeable. People with mild cognitive impairment are also at increased risk of developing various types of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease.

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors

An area of study that continues to generate great interest is the beneficial effects exercise may have on cognition and dementia. Research that analyzes years of health and behavior data collected from specific groups of people has found that individuals who exercise regularly can measurably reduce their risk of developing dementia when they age. There is also evidence that these protective effects can carry over to people who continue to exercise in their later years.

A new study, published in November in the journal Alzheimer's Research and Therapy, found people with MCI who did even a modest amount of exercise each day could be helping to delay the onset of more cognitive decline. Researchers examined health data collected from almost 250,000 people over the course of six years. The majority were between the ages of 65 and 70 and had been diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment. The subjects were divided into four groups: those who never exercised, those who had just begun to exercise, those who had recently quit exercising and those who had exercised prior to their diagnosis and continued to exercise regularly. Each of the groups self-reported the data about their physical activity.

Among the findings was that, when compared to the group that never exercised, those who had exercised prior to and after their diagnosis of MCI reduced their risk of progressing into dementia by 18 percent. For those study subjects who had begun regular exercise after receiving their diagnosis of MCI, the risk of progressing to dementia decreased by 11 percent.

When it came to defining physical activity, the researchers set the bar pretty low. They classified it as 10 or more minutes of moderate or vigorous exercise done more than one-day per week. Not that surprisingly, they also found that exercising longer and more often conferred increased benefits. The scientists surmised exercise may have protective effects because it raises the levels of certain proteins in the brain, which help with neuron development and maintenance. They also suggested a link to the increase of blood flow to the brain during exercise. When physical activity ceased, so did the positive cognitive effects it conferred.

As with all studies with self-reported data, the conclusions rely on the accuracy of the participants' record-keeping. Still, the physical and mental health benefits of regular exercise are well known. An exercise program tailored to your dad's health and abilities could be helpful.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Mother-in-law wants to come to dinner but won't wear a mask

DEAR CAROLYN: I am doing my best to stay home and not risk getting COVID. My dear husband works in a grocery store but is faithful about mask-wearing.

So far, so good. I have faith in masks but think it may still be possible to catch the virus while wearing one.

My problem is that my mother-in-law wants us to come to dinner every two weeks or so. I think she believes God has his hand over us and we are safe. I don't share that conviction. She is starting to resent me for speaking up and refusing to come.

Carolyn Hax

And, really, what difference does it make if my husband goes over and then brings the virus back to me? She is pro-mask but won't wear one. She is also deaf and gets irritated with me when she can't understand me through the mask. My husband, father-in-law, and sister-in-law are no help. They have always catered to her demands.

What do I do? I'm not trying to have a power play here, but I don't want this virus and I don't want her to get it, either. I feel like I'm being an ass when I hold my ground but I also believe it is the right thing to do. – Damned if I Do, Sick if I Don't

DEAR DAMNED IF I DO: It is the right thing to do. There's no belief element to it. There is a virus and there are facts and you're right.

That's why you're not "being an ass" when you hold your ground – you're being a hero. A loving, sensible, rational, brave, patriotic, strong-as-hell, (borrowing a phrase) total freaking warrior.

I am sorry your mother-in-law's weakness, and the others' even weaker weakness in the face of her weakness, mean your heroics are being undermined, possibly someday negated, once per fortnight.

But that doesn't mean you should cave.

For one thing, your strength is an important example, a standing opportunity for the others to stop putting self-interest and wishful thinking ahead of pandemic necessity. Don't succumb and make it easy for them to maintain their denial. Exist as counterpressure, even just through your absence.

This is a hard ask, and I'm sorry. But you *get it*, and anyone who grasps pandemic reality bears the added responsibility of living it.

For another thing, as your grocery-employed husband proves, some don't have the luxury of living the epidemiologist's dream. And the alternative is not to throw up our hands and declare the effort hopeless – it's to recognize that when all precautions aren't possible, the possible precautions become all the more urgent. People who can be vigilant must be for those who can't. Or won't.

If it helps, here's the we-Americans-apparently-like-to-think-we-live-in-our-own-silos version: Think of each discrete COVID-risk we take as a brick, and imagine stacking these bricks on each other each time we take such a risk. A stack of zero may be impossible, but keeping our own stacks as small as possible, choice by choice, day by day? That *is* possible. *And it helps*.

So keep taking your spread-prevention measures, every one you can.

And boost your communication, in writing, with your mother-in-law: a newsy daily email, a running group text, Zoom visits with an assist from the chat feature? Impairments compound isolation, so please offer her safe ways to ease it.

Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

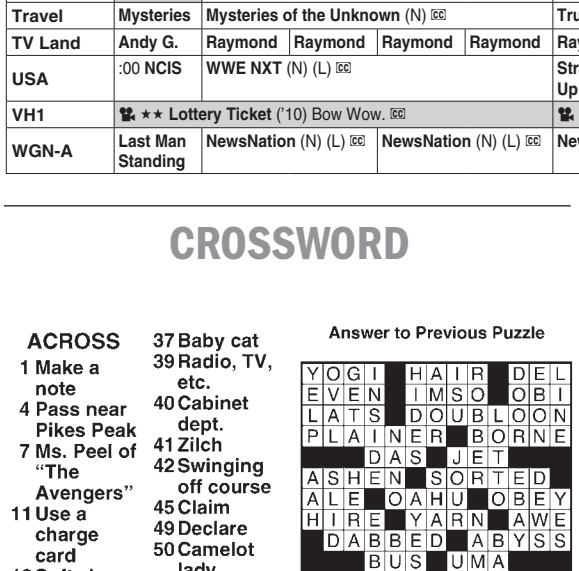
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Make a note
4 Pass near Pikes Peak
7 Ms. Peel of "The Avengers"
11 Use a charge card
12 Soft shoes
14 Young beef
15 Dutch airline
16 Wave cutter
17 Water, in Tijuana
18 — de corps
20 Decree officially
22 Tax agcy.
23 Beluga product
24 Degrade
27 Flotsam and —
30 Retina cell
31 Places for pints
32 Photo
34 Preschooler
35 Overwhelm with humor
36 Darth Vader, once
37 Baby cat
39 Radio, TV, etc.
40 Cabinet dept.
41 Zilch
42 Swinging off course
45 Claim
49 Declare
50 Camelot lady
52 Mr. Brynner
53 Cheery tone
54 Use a springboard
55 Hosp. areas
56 Swirling water
57 Apiece
58 Unpaid, as a bill

DOWN
1 Prank
2 Nocturnal birds
3 Short-term worker
4 Sports official
5 Actionable wrongs
6 Novelist Umberto —
7 Finds a loophole
8 Prefix for "million"
9 Pineapple island
10 Actor — Thicke
13 Had great faith in (2 wds.)
19 Stand up
21 Decays
24 Behave
25 Library volume
26 Debate side
27 Evita's hubby
28 Imitated
29 Dress length
31 Vowed
33 KGB counterpart
35 Phaser setting
36 Set
38 Days in June
39 Gentler
41 Wet behind the ears
42 Type of lock
43 Eager
44 Fuse together
46 Took a gander
47 Hindu teacher
48 What — can I do?
51 Pinch off

Answer to Previous Puzzle

Y	O	G	I	■	H	A	I	R	■	D	E	L
E	V	E	N	■	I	M	S	O	■	O	B	I
L	A	T	S	■	D	O	U	B	L	O	O	N
P	L	A	I	N	E	R	■	B	O	R	N	E
■	■	■	D	A	S	■	J	E	T	■	■	■
A	S	H	E	N	■	S	O	R	T	E	D	■
A	L	E	■	O	A	H	U	■	O	B	E	Y
H	I	R	E	■	Y	A	R	N	■	A	W	E
■	D	A	B	B	E	D	■	A	B	Y	S	S
■	■	■	B	U	S	■	U	M	A	■	■	■
L	I	K	E	N	■	A	T	E	C	R	O	W
A	C	I	D	T	E	S	T	■	K	I	T	E
C	O	D	■	E	R	I	E	■	E	D	I	E
E	N	D	■	D	E	A	R	■	D	E	S	K



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JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CRAGI

TAFIH

SYWILE

TWUITO

Did you find the office okay?
It was easy! It's right in the middle of everything.
THE NEW DOWNTOWN CARDIOLOGY CENTER WAS BUILT IN THE ---
1/13

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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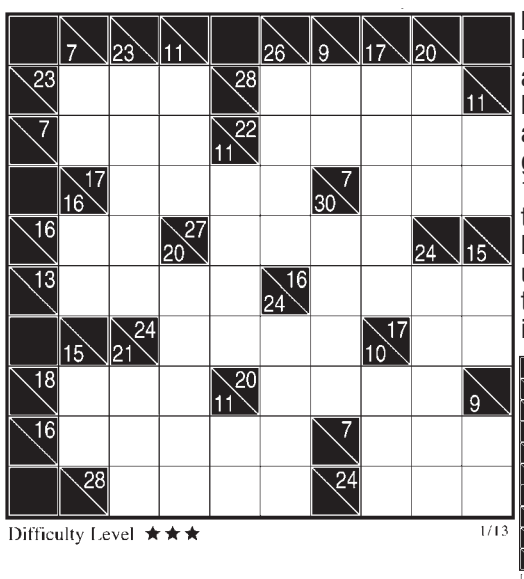
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE

(Answers tomorrow)

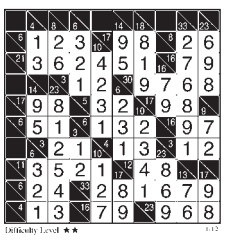
Yesterday's Jumbles: EXERT MOLDY NIBBLE INJURE
Answer: The fishing boat owner wanted more customers, so he put up a billboard to — REEL 'EM IN

KAKURO



How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/13



BRIDGE

This quotation is often credited to Cicero in 55 B.C.: "The national budget must be balanced. ... People must again learn to work, instead of living on public assistance." It was actually written by Taylor Caldwell, a historical novelist.

Yesterday, I gave a deal in which one player had made a takeout double at the three-level, and his partner had to decide whether to pass, converting it into a penalty double, or to bid. I recommended that with a balanced hand, pass; with an unbalanced hand, bid.

Here is another example. What should South do over his partner's second double?

North 01-13-21
♠ K J 2
♥ Q 3
♦ A K J 9 2
♣ A 3 2

West
♠ A 8 6
♥ A 9 7 5 4 2
♦ 10 6
♣ J 8

East
♠ Q 10 7
♥ K 10 8
♦ 8 7 3
♣ Q 7 5 4

South
♠ 9 5 4 3
♥ J 6
♦ Q 5 4
♣ K 10 9 6

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: North-South

South	West	North	East
			Pass
Pass	2♥	Dbl.	3♥
Pass	Pass	Dbl.	Pass
??			

Opening lead: ♦ 10

If South had followed my advice, he would have passed and gone plus 100 for down one and 14 out of 15 matchpoints in a virtual duplicate at Bridge Base Online. North-South would have taken one spade, two diamonds and two clubs.

However, South does not read my prose, so he advanced with three spades, which was passed out. How did declarer do after West led the diamond 10?

South won with his diamond queen and played a spade to the king – a great guess. When that held, declarer played another trump. East won with the 10 and shifted to the heart eight. The defenders took their heart winners, then East tried to give his partner a diamond ruff. South won on the board and played a third trump. When they split 3-3, declarer claimed, having the last six tricks with one spade, two clubs and three diamonds.

Plus 140 was a cold top. So much for my theories!

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

7					8	6	5	
1				2	7			
	4	3	5	1				7
		5			9			
9				8				5
			6			3		
5				6	3	1	9	
			2	7				4
	8	1	4					6

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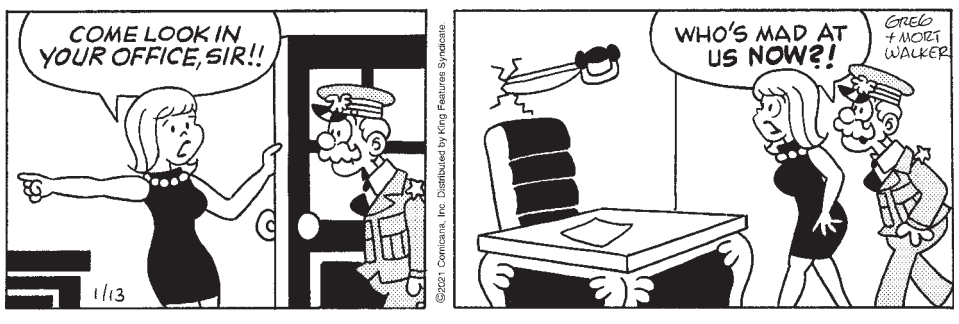
How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

4	1	5	6	8	9	3	7	2
9	2	6	1	7	3	8	5	4
7	3	8	4	2	5	6	1	9
6	9	1	8	3	7	4	2	5
2	5	7	9	4	6	1	8	3
8	4	3	2	5	1	9	6	7
3	8	9	7	6	2	5	4	1
1	6	2	5	9	4	7	3	8
5	7	4	3	1	8	2	9	6

BEETLE BAILEY


COME LOOK IN YOUR OFFICE, SIR!!
1/13
WHO'S MAD AT US NOW?!
GREG + MORT WALKER
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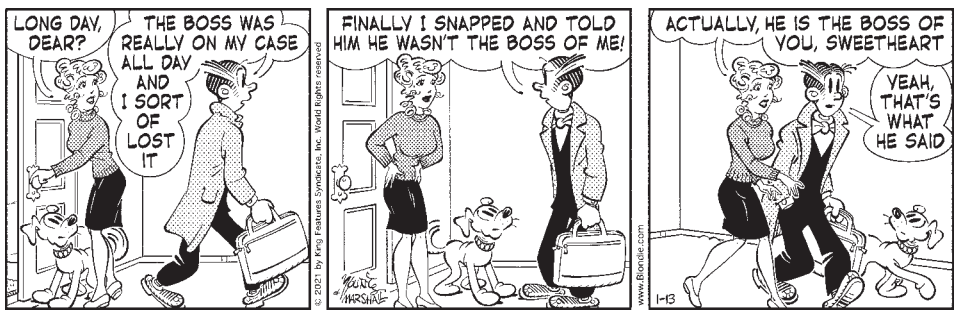
BLONDIE


LONG DAY, DEAR?
THE BOSS WAS REALLY ON MY CASE ALL DAY AND I SORT OF LOST IT
FINALLY I SNAPPED AND TOLD HIM HE WASN'T THE BOSS OF ME!
ACTUALLY, HE IS THE BOSS OF YOU, SWEETHEART
YEAH, THAT'S WHAT HE SAID
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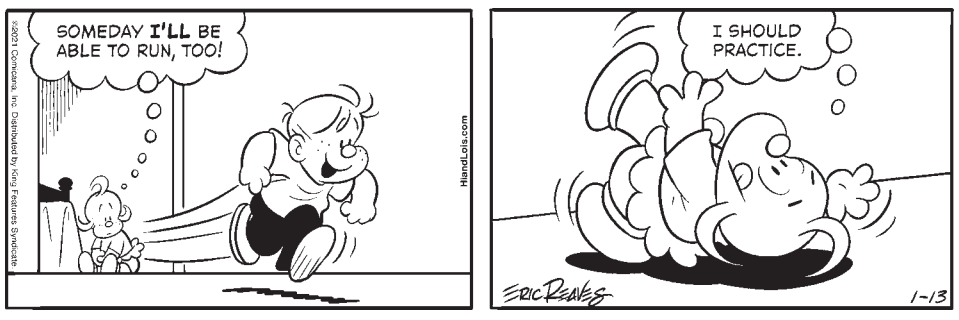
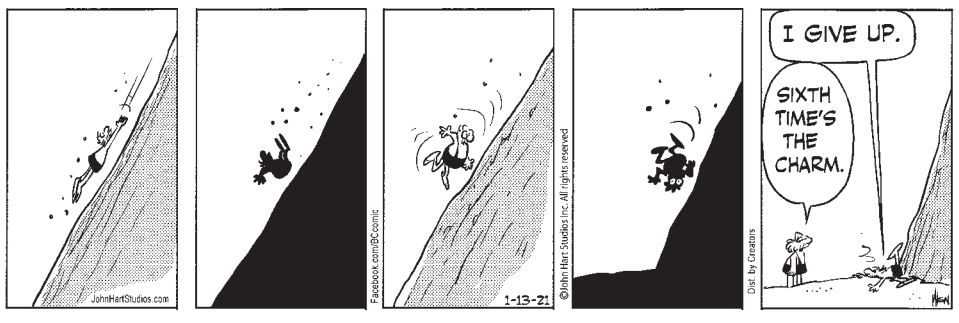
www.Blondie.com
1-13

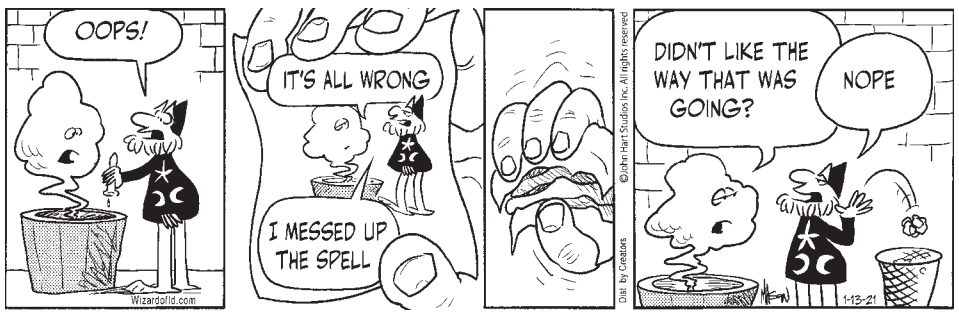
HI & LOIS



BC



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT

DILBERT, I'M PUTTING YOU IN CHARGE OF A PROJECT THAT WILL MAKE OR BREAK YOUR CAREER.
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
THIS IS THE BIG ONE. THE REST OF YOUR LIFE WILL DEPEND ON HOW YOU PERFORM ON THIS PROJECT.
WHAT'S MY BUDGET?
NO BUDGET.
1-13-21 2021 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

GARFIELD

"DEAR ASK A DOG, WHAT'S THE SECRET TO HAPPINESS?"
JIM DAVIS 1-13
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BARK AT NOTHING, SNIFF EVERYTHING
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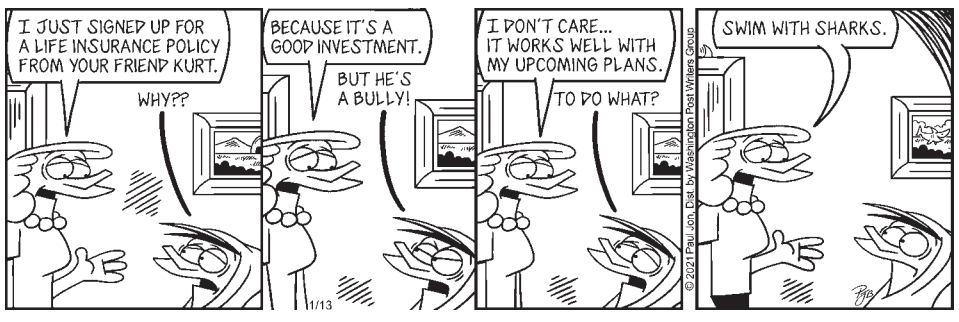
FORT KNOX


I JUST SIGNED UP FOR A LIFE INSURANCE POLICY FROM YOUR FRIEND KURT.
WHY??
BECAUSE IT'S A GOOD INVESTMENT.
BUT HE'S A BULLY!
I DON'T CARE... IT WORKS WELL WITH MY UPCOMING PLANS.
TO DO WHAT?
SWIM WITH SHARKS.
1/13
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PICKLES

WHAT'S THAT STUFF YOU'RE RUBBING ON YOUR PLANT, GRAMMA?
VEGETABLE OIL.
1/13
IT MAKES THE LEAVES NICE AND SHINY.
IT ALSO WORKS ON MANY OTHER DULL SURFACES.
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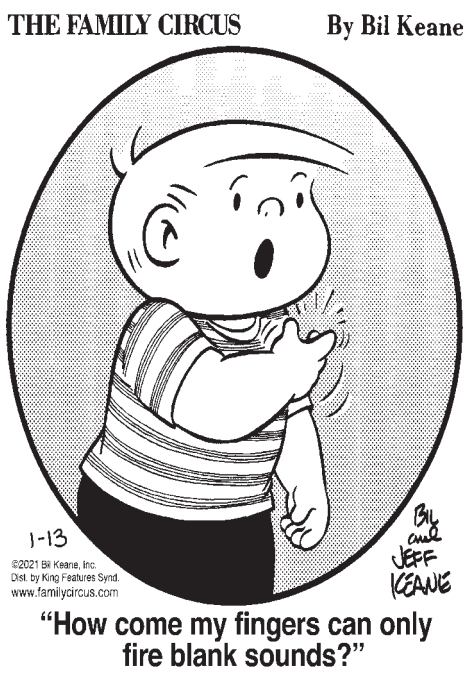
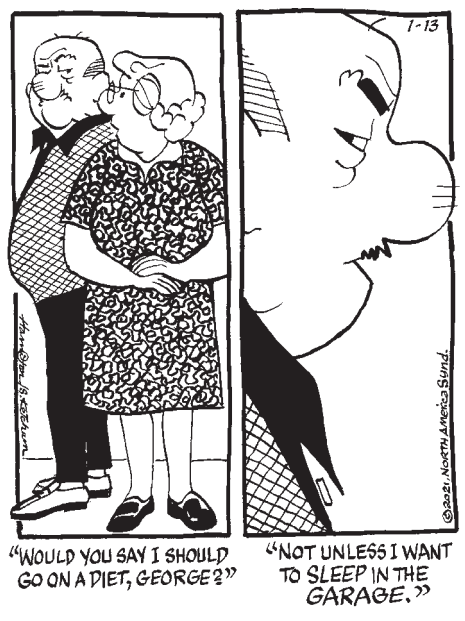
pickles.com

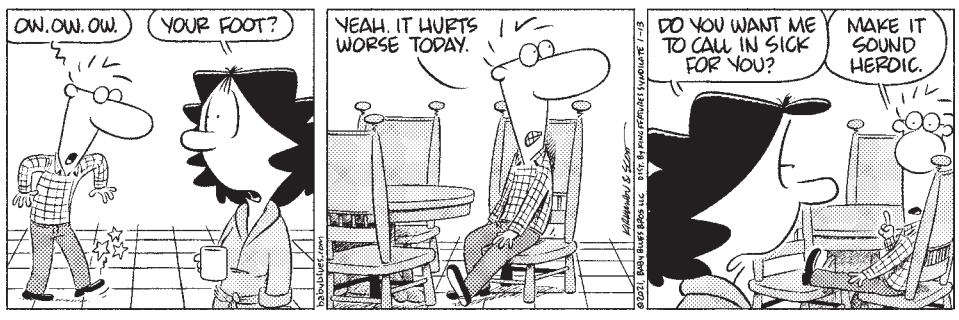
FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



BABY BLUES


OW. OW. OW.
YOUR FOOT?
YEAH. IT HURTS WORSE TODAY.
DO YOU WANT ME TO CALL IN SICK FOR YOU?
MAKE IT SOUND HERDIC.
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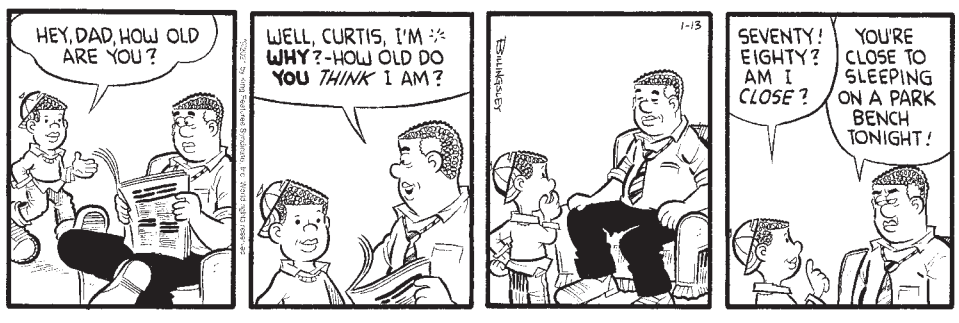
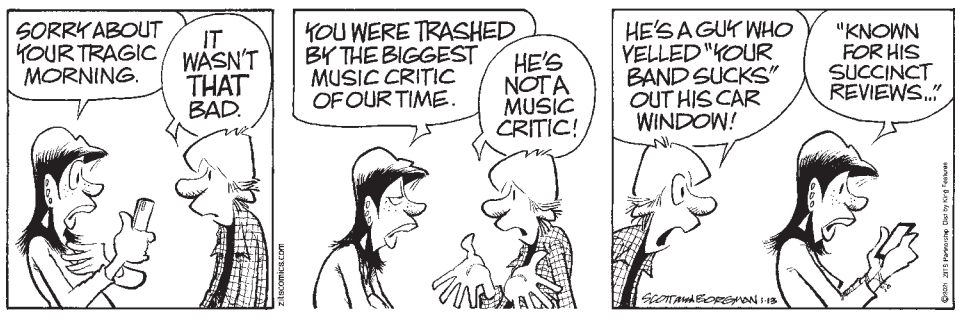
CURTIS


HEY, DAD, HOW OLD ARE YOU?
WELL, CURTIS, I'M WHY?-HOW OLD DO YOU THINK I AM?
1-13
SEVENTY! EIGHTY? AM I CLOSE?
YOU'RE CLOSE TO SLEEPING ON A PARK BENCH TONIGHT!

ZITS


SORRY ABOUT YOUR TRAGIC MORNING.
IT WASN'T THAT BAD.
YOU WERE TRASHED BY THE BIGGEST MUSIC CRITIC OF OUR TIME.
HE'S NOT A MUSIC CRITIC!
HE'S A GUY WHO YELLED "YOUR BAND SUCKS" OUT HIS CAR WINDOW!
"KNOWN FOR HIS SUCCINCT REVIEWS..."
zitscomics.com
SCOTT & MIKE BORGMAN 1-13
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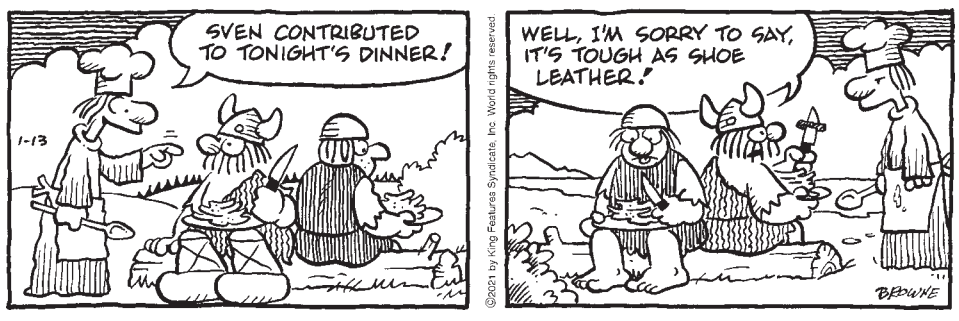
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE


SVEN CONTRIBUTED TO TONIGHT'S DINNER!
1-13
WELL, I'M SORRY TO SAY, IT'S TOUGH AS SHOE LEATHER!
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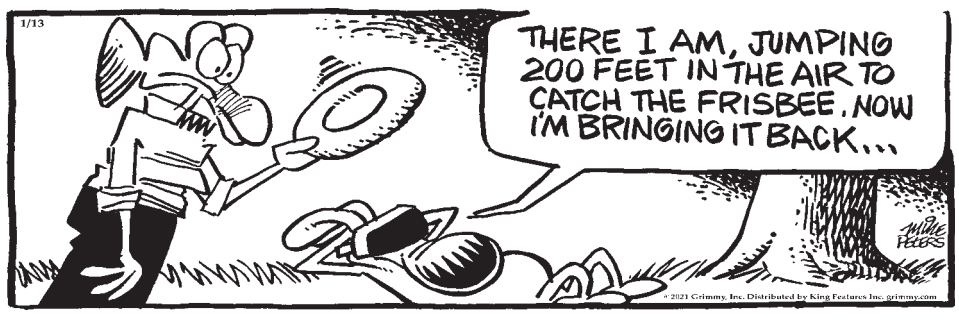
BROWNE

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM


1/13
THERE I AM, JUMPING 200 FEET IN THE AIR TO CATCH THE FRISBEE. NOW I'M BRINGING IT BACK...
MIKE PEERS
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MUTTS

EARL, COULD YOU SING ME A LULLABY SO I CAN SHLIP INTO SHWEET, SHWEET SHLEEP?
ROCK-A-BYE BABY ON THE TREETOP WHEN THE WIND BLOWS THE CRADLE WILL ROCK WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS THE CRADLE WILL FALL AND...
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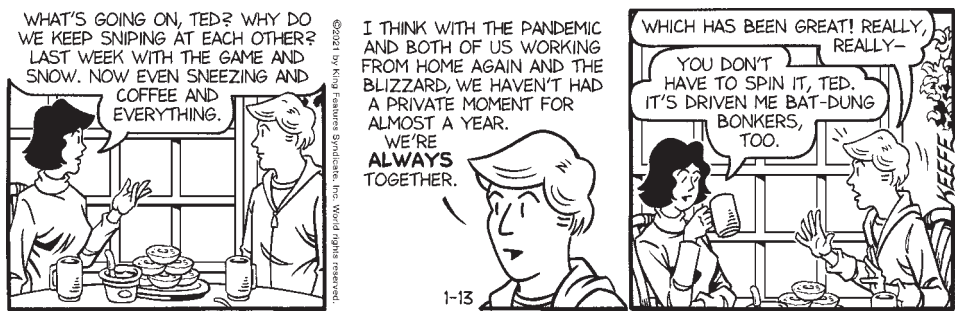
1-13

SALLY FORTH


WHAT'S GOING ON, TED? WHY DO WE KEEP SNIPING AT EACH OTHER? LAST WEEK WITH THE GAME AND SNOW. NOW EVEN SNEEZING AND COFFEE AND EVERYTHING.
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I THINK WITH THE PANDEMIC AND BOTH OF US WORKING FROM HOME AGAIN AND THE BLIZZARD, WE HAVEN'T HAD A PRIVATE MOMENT FOR ALMOST A YEAR.
WE'RE ALWAYS TOGETHER.
1-13
WHICH HAS BEEN GREAT! REALLY, REALLY—
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SPIN IT, TED. IT'S DRIVEN ME BAT-DUNG BONKERS, TOO.

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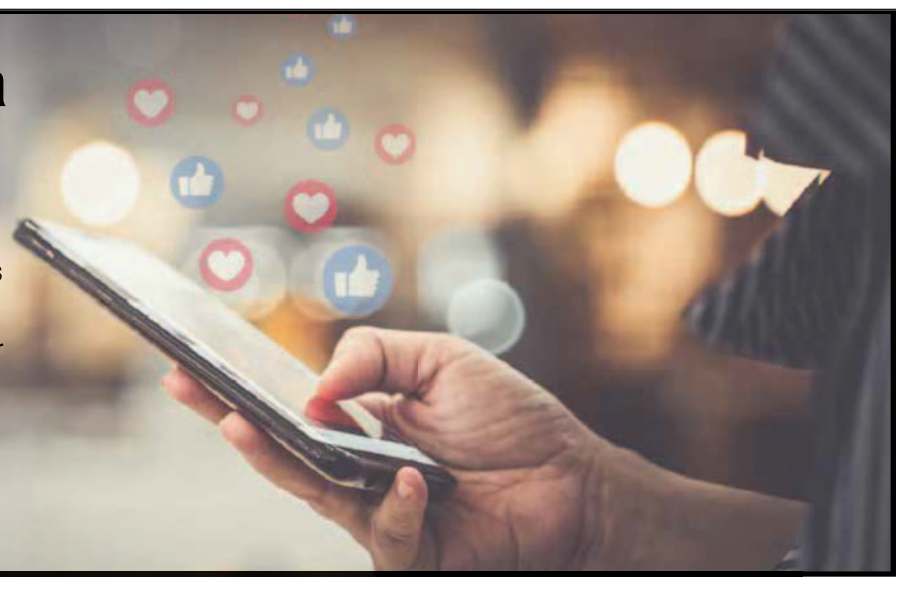
Julie Swidwa
@HPSwidwa

Ben Sanders
@HPBenSanders

Ben Spencer
@HPBenSpencer



The Herald-Palladium

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Hours: Monday - Friday 8am-4pm EST
Saturday & Sunday 8am-11am EST

monster

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One and two bedroom apartments available. Water included. No smoking and no pets.
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Very nice & clean.
Central air.
With nice yard, very quiet neighborhood, $650 a month plus deposit. Water and sewer included.
Renters responsible for Nipsco. No Pets.
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Very nice 3 bedroom/2 bath house for rent.
Close to University and shopping area.
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Brand new hardwood floor throughout house. All appliances stay.
Including HE washer & dryer.
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$1400/mo. Call/Text 269-449-2362

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plus security
call for details- Jim
269-208-1364

Coloma, MI
Small two bedroom
650 per month
plus security
call for details- Jim
269-208-1364

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LEGALS

LEGALS

Hagar Township will be conducting a risk limiting audit of ballots from the November 2020 Presidential Election, per State requirements. Residents are welcome to observe the process The ballots requested by the State will be drawn and tallied at Hagar Township Hall (3900 Riverside Rd, Benton Harbor) on Wednesday January 13th at 4pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT

EDUCATION/ TEACHING

Third Grade Teacher

River Valley School district
Employment info at: www.rivervalleyschools.org
Deadline: Until filled

Careers are made in the Classifieds... Find One Today!

Lincoln Charter Township
Planning Commission
Electronic Regular Meeting &
Public Hearing Meeting Notice
Monday February 1, 2021 at 6:00pm

In accordance with Michigan law, electronic remote access will be implemented in response to COVID-19 social distancing requirements and limitations on the number of individuals in a meeting hall. The Lincoln Charter Township PC will hold such a meeting at 6:00 pm on Monday, February 1, 2021, for the purpose of conducting Lincoln Charter Township PC regular meeting and public hearing:

To consider an application by Williams Land Development for a special land use permit to operate a Mini/Self Storage Facility. Located at 4490, 4492, 4508, and 4542 Red Arrow Hwy, Stevensville, MI on parcel number 11-12-0016-0045-02-5 and 11-12-0016-0046-02-1 on approximately 12 acres. The site is located on the west portion of the parcels that are zoned CMU – Commercial Mixed Use District, which allows a Mini/Self Storage Facility by special land use permit pursuant to Article 9, Section 230.939 of the Township's Zoning Ordinance.

Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting through electronic means will have access to the meeting through phone-in access.

Meeting URL:
https://www.anymeeting.com/351-674-328

Optional Phone Dial-In Number: +12063314836

PIN: 351-674-328#

The following are the procedures by which persons may contact members of the public body to provide input or ask questions about the business that come before it.

- Phone- audience will be able to speak during public comment, before you speak please state your first name.
- The time limit for an individual's public comment shall remain 3 minutes.

If you would like to contact the Township with any questions or concerns about any matter, on the agenda or otherwise, please do so by calling township hall or emailing; info@lctberrien.org

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72a (2) (3) and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Lincoln Charter Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed material being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing upon three (3) days' notice to Lincoln Charter Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Lincoln Charter Township by writing or calling the following:

Stacy Loar-Porter, Clerk
2055 W John Beers Rd
PO Box 279
Stevensville MI 49127-0279
(269) 429-1589
A COPY OF THIS NOTICE IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK

SKILLED TRADE

St. Joseph, MI. BH-SJ Wastewater Plant. PROCESS OPERATOR. The Benton Harbor - St. Joseph Wastewater Treatment Plant is seeking a Process Operator to perform all required operating duties during various shift periods including swing shifts. Four-week periods of day shifts are included as well. HS diploma required. Must possess or have necessary experience/

SKILLED TRADE

ability to obtain EGLE Class D Wastewater Operator License. Competitive pay and benefits including medical, dental, life/DI, deferred comp, pension, paid vacations and holidays. Must possess reliable transportation and be willing to work various shifts, weekends, and respond to call-in work. Work requires agility & ability to walk, climb ladders and stand for lengthy periods. Pay Range: $22.22-$23.88/hr. Interested persons should call 269-983-7719 for appointment to complete application at the BHSJ WWTP. Resume may be mailed to BHSJ WWTP, 269 Anchors Way, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

FINANCIAL

GARAGE /ESTATE SALES

MERCHANDISE

People DO Read Small Ads. You Did!

WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

Benton Harbor, MI 3 Pillars Music is looking to buy record albums from 1970s to present, older guitars and comic books. Please contact Tom at 269-313-7001 or 3pillarsmusic@gmail.com

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antique toys, advertising items, military items, or other vintage items.
Single items or collections.
Text or Call
574-485-7993
(Ask for Joe)

White Space Sells

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Small Cars - $200
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Large Vehicles - $350
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Or Scott at (269)208-9208

PETS

FARM

TRANSPORTATION

BUYING JUNK CARS & TRUCKS

Small Cars - $250
Medium Cars - $350
Large Vehicles - $450
Call Larry at (269)326-0510
Or Scott at (269)208-9208

Benton Harbor Mi, Abandoned Vehicle Auction at 1203 Pipestone Rd, Suite B on 01/28/2021 at 9:30 am:
2005 Infiniti FX35
JNRAS08W15X208152;
2006 Mercedes E350
WDBUF56J56A931690;
2006 Land Rover Range Rover
SALME15436A234634;
2008 Dodge Avenger
1B3LC56R08N250488.

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

Tension will mount if you can't agree with the important people in your life. Refuse to let your ego or emotions get in your way. Concentrate on making physical adjustments that please everyone, not on arguing over something inevitable.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Fix up your place to suit your changing lifestyle. A space that allows you to work without interruption will help you discover how to help someone who has something to offer in return.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Be careful how you handle friends and family. Arguments won't solve anything, but a kind gesture, suggestion or pep talk will. Don't let uncertainty ruin your day.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Put more time into helping others and building solid relationships with people who share your concerns and life goals. The rewards you receive will confirm that you are doing something worthwhile.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Don't feel pressured by what others do or say. Go at your speed, and leave no room for error. A bargain or offer is useful only if it's something you need. Know when to say no.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Uncertainty will set in regarding your reputation, position and status. Listen carefully and absorb the facts you receive before you take action. Knowledge is the key to making better decisions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Take heed of what's trending and how to utilize your skills to fit the current scenario. You'll discover how to avoid falling behind in an economy that's in constant transition.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) A hasty move or decision will lead to regret. Bide your time, and don't feel the need to invest in someone's pipe dream – concentrate on being responsible. Romance is favored.

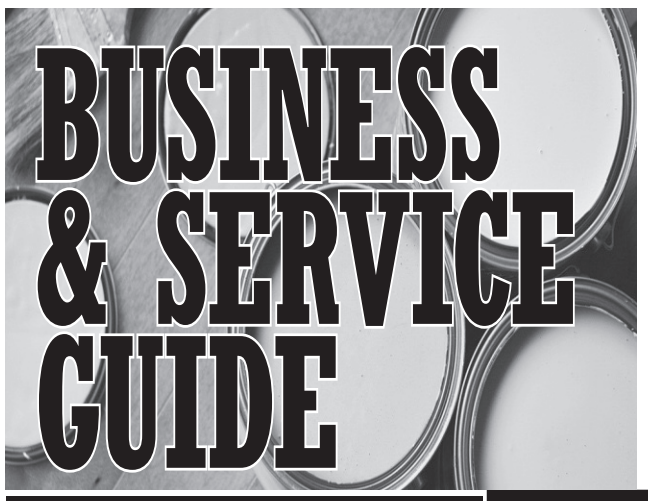
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) A unique individual will grab your attention. Giving in to temptation will not lead you anywhere good. Pay more attention to trying your best and less to what others do or say.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Stick to what you know and do best. Update your skills and find out what's trending. How you use your attributes will determine which opportunities are going to pan out for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You'll get caught in the middle of an unsavory situation if you are too accommodating. Pay closer attention to your health and financial well-being. Make domestic adjustments.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Refuse to let someone's confusion or uncertainty hold you back. Look for a unique opportunity and make it work. Taking a distinctive approach to social media will help you get ahead.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Find your rhythm and do your own thing. Don't let anyone convince you to invest in something that will benefit others more than it will you. Test your intelligence with a challenge.



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Mysterious pears become delicious dessert

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" is an old English song about gifts the singer receives from their true love, one of which is a partridge in a pear tree.

Jane Ammeson

Though not a typical gift for anyone now, Diane Iannelli had a unique holiday experience centered around pears.

I read about it when I received an email from Mary Sanderson, who described herself as a reader and Diane's neighbor in St. Joseph.

"I see Diane out and about most days, and on Christmas Day she walked by with a fairly good-sized bag of pears under her arm," says Mary, who thought Diane was maybe adding weights to her near daily walk to the pier.

It turns out Diane had been trampling through the freshly fallen snow that day when she spied a food bank box labeled fruit on a picnic table near the pier. She walked over to investigate what seemed like an oddity – fresh fruit in a deserted area on Christmas Day. When she looked inside, she found two bags of Golden Delicious apples and two bags of Bartlett pears.

"It was very cold out, and there was no one around," Diane says. "I could see footprints going up to the table, and the fruit hadn't frozen yet, so it must have been left a short time before I saw it. But I couldn't figure out why anyone would just drop all that fruit."

She continued her walk, and when she came back saw that the box were still there. Knowing it would soon freeze and be ruined, Diane took the pears with her.

That's when Mary saw her and asked what she was doing.

"I'm going to figure out what to do with these," was the reply.

Diane likes to cook and, before working as a nurse, cooked in local restaurants. She subscribes to the New York Times cooking section, and looking up recipes on their site she decided to make Melissa Clark's Honey-Glazed Pear Upside Down Cake.

She happened to have the needed chestnut honey in her cabinet. It's an intense tasting dark honey, and Diane suggested some people might want to substitute a lighter honey instead. The recipe also lists thyme as an optional ingredients, so Diane chose to include it.

She was pleased with the outcome. The cake, which looks pretty in the photo she and Mary sent, tasted just as good.

When I talked to Diane, she still had plenty of pears left and had just decided to try another New York Times recipe by dessert cookbook author Martha Rose Shulman.

Diane hopes someone else got to enjoy the fruit before it was ruined, and if anyone knows more about the mysterious box, please let me know.

Honey-Glazed Pear Upside Down Cake

1/4 cup chestnut honey, or other intense honey
4 small or 3 large Bosc pears, peeled, cored and quartered lengthwise
3 sprigs fresh thyme (optional)
1 cup sugar
Finely grated zest of 1 lemon
2 large eggs
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup plus 1 tablespoon unsalted butter, melted and cooled
1/4 cup sliced almonds

Heat an oven to 350 degrees.

In a 9-inch ovenproof skillet (not nonstick), simmer the honey until it begins to reduce, caramelize and darken in color, 6 to 10 minutes. Do not let honey burn. If it starts to smell burnt, turn off the heat.

Arrange the pears closely together, cut-side up, in a circular pattern in the skillet, stem ends pointing toward the center. Simmer over medium heat, turning them from one cut side to the other, until they begin to turn golden, about 10 minutes.

Flip pears over to cut-side down and scatter with thyme sprigs if using. Transfer the skillet to the oven and roast, uncovered, until very tender, about 25 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a large bowl, whisk together the sugar and lemon zest. Whisk in the eggs and vanilla. Fold in the flour and salt. Stir in 1/2 cup of the butter.

When the pears are soft, remove the skillet from the oven, discard the thyme sprigs, and brush edges of the pears with remaining melted butter.

Pour the batter on the roasted pears, and scatter almonds over the batter. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 25 to 30 minutes.

Let the cake cool for 30 minutes in the pan. Run an offset spatula along the edges of the pan to loosen the cake.

Carefully invert the cake onto a serving platter. Serve warm or cooled.

Ginger Pear Crumble

2 1/2 to 3 pounds pears (about 5 large ones), peeled, cored and sliced
2 tablespoons raw brown sugar, preferably organic
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
2 tablespoons chopped candied ginger
1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract, or the seeds from 1/2 vanilla bean
2 teaspoons cornstarch, or arrowroot
1 batch quinoa-oat crumble topping

Heat the oven to 375 degrees. Butter a 2- or 2 1/2-quart baking dish.

In a large bowl, mix together the pears, sugar, lemon juice, candied ginger, vanilla and cornstarch.

Scrape the fruit and all of the juice in the bowl into the baking dish. Set the baking dish on a baking sheet for easier handling, and place it in the oven. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes, until the fruit is bubbling and the liquid syrupy. Remove from the oven and allow to cool if desired.

About 30 minutes before serving, spread the crumble topping over the pear mixture in an even layer. Bake for 20 minutes, or until the fruit is bubbling and the topping is nicely browned. Remove from the heat, and allow to cool for 10 minutes before serving.

A clarification

Last week, I wrote about Verdant Hollow Farms in Buchanan and described it as an organic farm.

Molly Muchow wrote to tell me that though they use organic practices, the farm isn't certified organic. This is an important distinction, and I'm sorry for the confusion.

Jane Ammeson can be contacted via email at janeammeson@gmail.com or by writing to Focus, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

BREAKFASTS AND BANQUETS

Burgers: American Legion Post 518, 4789 Weechik Road, New Troy, will have a hamburger night from 5-8 p.m. today. Cost is $5 for a burger, fries and salad. Cost is $6.50 for a burger, onion rings and salad. All orders are carryout. Order upon arrival, or call ahead at 426-3542.

Breakfasts and Banquets appears on Wednesdays. The deadline is the preceding Wednesday at noon. Civic groups sponsoring fundraising meals, classes or other food-related events should send information in writing to: Focus, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; or email focus@TheHP.com.

Photo provided

LaToya Turner, center, and Trenton Bowens, at right, talk with a provider at the Center for Better Health in Benton Harbor.

Center for Better Health services continue into '21

BENTON HARBOR — The Center for Better Health, established in October with funding from the Michigan Coronavirus Task Force on Racial Disparities, will continue to provide services in Benton Harbor in 2021.

The center at 100 W. Main St., is now operating from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays. This continued service is supported by the Health Equity Endowment Fund established by Spectrum Health Lakeland in June, according to a news release.

Staff are available to assist with employment opportunities, government benefits, legal navigation, mental health counseling, social service navigation and health coaching, among other services. Health screenings and immunizations are available, including flu shots, blood pressure readings, virtual doctor appointments, cholesterol and blood sugar checks, and body fat analysis.

Area residents also can obtain free personal protective equipment there, including masks, hand sanitizer and soap.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has been a deeply painful experience for our nation and has elevated the widespread health challenges faced by many communities of color," Lakeland Vice President of Health Equity Lynn Todman said in the release. "The Center for Better Health offers a unique opportunity to help narrow racial health inequities by providing care and support close to where people live. My hope is that the center will strengthen the relationship between Spectrum Health Lakeland and the Benton Harbor community."

Since opening, the center has served more than 225 people, provided nearly 500 personal protective kits, and administered almost 5,000 COVID-19 tests in partnership with InterCare Community Health Network.

COVID-19 testing will continue to be offered by InterCare in the parking lot at Benton Harbor High School, 870 Colfax Ave., through March 31. Testing is covered by insurance. For more information, visit www.intercare.org/covid-19.html.

For more information on the Center for Better Health and available services, call 408-2258 or visit shlcenterforbetterhealth.org.

BLOOD DRIVES

American Red Cross

■ 11 a.m.-4:45 p.m. today, Silver Beach Center, 333 Broad St., St. Joseph.

■ Noon-4:45 p.m. Friday, Holy Family Catholic Church, 500 W. St. Mary's St., Decatur.

■ Noon-5:45 p.m. Monday, Lawton Evangelical Mennonite Church, 425 Nursery St., Lawton.

■ Noon-4:45 p.m. Jan. 21, Bethel Baptist Church, 6701 S. Blue Star Highway, South Haven.

■ Noon-5:45 p.m. Jan. 22, Hartford Bible Church, 65418 Red Arrow Highway, Hartford.

Versiti Blood Center of Michigan

■ Noon-7 p.m. today, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 1-7 p.m. Monday, Salem Lutheran Church, fellowship hall, 275 Marvin St., Coloma.

■ Noon-6 p.m. Tuesday, LifeBridge Church, foyer, 10420 M-140, South Haven.

■ 2-7 p.m. Tuesday, Eau Claire Seventh-day Adventist Church, fellowship hall, 6562 Naomi Road, Eau Claire.

■ Noon-7 p.m. Jan. 20, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 1-6 p.m. Jan. 21, The Chapel, 4250 Washington Ave., St. Joseph.

■ Noon-5 p.m. Jan. 22, Consortium for Community Development, conference room, 175 W. Main St., Benton Harbor.

South Bend Medical Foundation

■ 3-7 p.m. Monday, Niles-Buchanan YMCA, 905 N. Front St., Niles.

Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. To find more drives, visit www.redcrossblood.org, donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/zip or givebloodnow.com.

Spectrum Health Lakeland and Van's Medical end joint venture

ST. JOSEPH — On Jan. 1, Spectrum Health Lakeland and Van's Medical Equipment ended their joint venture, which was established in 2008.

For the last 12 years, the organizations have partnered to provide a full line of home medical equipment for Southwest Michigan residents.

Going forward, Van's Medical Equipment will operate as its own business. All services will remain available, including their main retail facility at 323 W. Glenlord Road.

"With many recent changes to the medical equipment industry, regulations and payment structures, we realized both organizations can provide greater value to our community as separate community partners than as a joint venture," Dr. Melinda Gruber, vice president of continued care services for Lakeland, said in a news release. "Going forward, we remain committed to ensuring our patients receive the highest quality care and medical equipment as they transition home from the hospital, and will continue to work closely with Van's Medical Equipment as a valued community partner."

"The Van Antwerp family made a commitment to meeting the health care needs of Southwest Michigan residents over 100 years ago, and have long enjoyed our collaboration with Spectrum Health Lakeland," Van's owner Tim Van Antwerp said. "We will continue our tradition of high-quality products and outstanding customer service that you have come to expect."

Van's Medical Equipment specializes in home medical products, including hospital beds, oxygen concentrators, portable oxygen, nebulizers, walkers, wheelchairs, lift chairs and bath safety.

For more information, call 927-8635 or visit www.vansmedical.com.

New dietary guidelines for Americans

The Dietary Guidelines for Americans have been updated to include, for the first time, recommendations across the lifespan.

Dr. Donald Hensrud, director of the Mayo Clinic Healthy Living Program, says the dietary guidelines, which are updated every five years, are designed to give the best recommendations on what to eat and drink to promote health and prevent disease.

One of the changes for this edition of the guidelines is focused on a lifespan approach from infancy to older adulthood.

"We've known for quite some time that for the first six months of an infant's life, they should be fed exclusively human breast milk," Hensrud says.

"Another addition that people may not be aware of is that when foods are introduced to an infant around the age of 4 to 6 months, peanut-containing foods can be added to the diet after checking with the infant's health care provider," he says. "The evidence shows that by adding peanuts early in the diet, it may prevent allergies later on. Also, under the age of 2 years, no added sugars should be included in the diet of children. Added sugars do not provide any health benefit."

Key recommendations from the guidelines include:

■ For about the first 6 months of life, exclusively feed infants human milk.

■ At about 6 months, introduce infants to nutrient-dense complementary foods. Introduce infants to potentially allergenic foods along with other complementary foods.

■ From 12 months through older adulthood, follow a healthy dietary pattern across the lifespan to meet nutrient needs, help achieve a healthy body weight and reduce the risk of chronic disease.

■ Limit foods and beverages higher in added sugars, saturated fat and sodium, and limit alcoholic beverages.

– Mayo Clinic News Network

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